FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 23 *2 February 1978*

ARGENTINA

Panel Notes Chilean Maneuverings on Border	B	1	1/A7
Police Smash Four-Nation Cocaine Ring	B	2	1/A8
Lanusse Said Arrested for Beagle Remarks	B	2	1/A8
Videla Receives FRC Ambassador's Credentials	B	3	1/A9
Wheat Exports To Continue Despite Poor Harvest	B	3	1/A9
Briefs: Southern Naval Area Commander; Relay Stations	B	3	1/A9

BOLIVIA

Courts Release Six Former Detainees, Exile One	C	1	1/A10
Pereda Asbun Makes Bid for FSB Labor Support	C	1	1/A10
Church Urges Dignity in Election Campaign	C	1	1/A10
MNR Faction Says Paz Estenssoro Part of Past	C	2	1/A11
Southern Departments Threaten Work Stoppages	C	2	1/A11

BRAZIL

Government Will Wait for Netherlands' Uranium Decision	D	1	1/A12
ARENA Deputy Discusses Nuclear Plans With Figueiredo	D	1	1/A12
Government Rejects Call for Bomb	D	1	1/A12
Paraguayan Minister Speaks in Sao Paulo [O GLOBO 31 Jan]	D	2	1/A13
Itamaraty Criticizes OAS Vote Against Uruguay	D	2	1/A13
Commentator Views Simonsen's Economic Plans	D	3	1/A14
Nobre Says MDB Cannot Legally Support Magalhaes Pinto	D	3	1/A14
Communist Party Leader Prestes Departs Bulgaria [SOFIA]	D	4	1/B1
French Firm Gets Helicopter Contract Instead of Bell	D	4	1/B1
$450 Million Payments Surplus Posted for 1977	D	4	1/B1
Briefs: Rubber Production; Pig Iron Exports; War Materiel Factory Planned	D	4	1/B1

CHILE

Pinochet Appeals for Reduced Forces on Border	E	1	1/B2
ERCILLA Links Beagle Issue, Argentine Politics	E	1	1/B2
EL MERCURIO Questions Need To Arrest Ex-Politicians [17 Jan]	E	2	1/B3
12 PDC Members Transferred to Arica for Confinement	E	3	1/B4
Government Cancels Cooperative Regional Stations' Permits	E	4	1/B5
Four Communists Arrested for Subversion	E	4	1/B5
Temuco Cells Broken Up	E	4	1/B5
Five Detained After Discovery of Weapons Shop	E	4	1/B5
MIR Plan for Electrical Sabotage Discovered	E	5	1/B6
Briefs: January Inflation Rate; More Merchant Marine Ships; Oceanography Research in Antarctic; Fire Damages Radio Station	E	5	1/B6

ECUADOR

Constitutionalist Front Dissenters Explain Positions G 1 1/B7
Eight CFP Leaders Released From Jail in Guayaquil G 2 1/B8
Political Leaders Protest 'Arbitrary' Jail Sentence G 2 1/B8

PARAGUAY

PDC To Call for Blank Vote in Election H 1 1/B9
[HOY 1 Feb]

URUGUAY

Panel Discusses LA MANANA Editorial on U.S. Aid K 1 1/B10
New Armed Forces Commander Delivers Address K 2 1/B11
Foreign Minister Reacts to Negative OAS Vote K 3 1/B12
Rovira Says FAO Meeting Scheduled for August K 4 1/B13
Briefs: Trade Deficit Quadruples K 4 1/B13

VENEZUELA

UMDC Political Committee Condemns Chilean Regime L 1 1/B14
President Discusses Agricultural Problems in Nirgua L 1 1/B14
[EL UNIVERSAL 26 Jan]
Defense Minister Reports Arrest of Guerrillas L 3 1/C2
[EL UNIVERSAL 27 Jan]

MEXICO

Air Force Chief Denies Formal Request for F-5 Planes M 1 1/C3
Police Break Up Argentine Assassination Group M 1 1/C3
Ethiopian Envoy on Internationalization of Conflict M 1 1/C3
Soviet, Cuban Delegations Arrive for Peace Meeting [Havana] M 2 1/C4
Ecuadorean Government Minister Arrives in Capital M 2 1/C4
Correction to Communique on Malmierca Visit M 2 1/C4
Briefs: Trade Delegation to India M 2 1/C4

PANAMA

Chief Panamanian Negotiator on Treaty Amendments N 1 1/C5
Envoy to Nicaragua Recalled for Consultations N 2 1/C6
Nicaraguan Students Occupy UN Offices in Panama City N 2 1/C6
Students Demand Somoza Ouster N 2 1/C6
Amnesty, Assistance Are Sought N 2 1/C6
Nicaraguan Student Gives Statement N 3 1/C7
Commentary Denounces Torrijos As Dictator N 4 1/C8
Panama City CRITICA Opposes New Plebiscite [31 Jan] N 6 1/C10
National Revolution Committee To Be Established [MATUTINO 1 Feb] N 7 1/C11
Visiting Finnish Delegation Sees Port N 7 1/C11

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Premier Price Returns 'Unheralded and Unannounced' P 1 1/C12
[THE REPORTER 29 Jan]
Reactions to 'Collapse' of Talks [THE REPORTER 29 Jan] P 3 1/C14

COSTA RICA

Foreign Minister Discusses Talks With Terence Todman [LA NACION 29 Jan] P 3 1/C14
Editorial Comments on Crash of Soviet Satellite [LA NACION 30 Jan] P 4 1/D1

EL SALVADOR

Security Police Break Up Sugar Workers Strike P 5 1/D2

GUATEMALA

Government Communique on Intensifying Anticrime Effort P 6 1/D3

NICARAGUA

Further Reportage on General Strike Over Chamorro's Death P 6 1/D3
Private Sector To Continue Strike P 6 1/D3
Somoza Denies Unrest P 7 1/D4
Fuel Supplies Dwindling P 7 1/D4
Chamber President Denies Statements P 8 1/D5
More Clashes in Matagalpa P 8 1/D5
Esso Forced To Resume Operations P 9 1/D6
Serious Disorders Continue P 10 1/D7
National Guard Beats Newsmen P 10 1/D7
Zelaya Communique on Situation P 11 1/D8
Ministers Asked To Resign P 11 1/D8
Women Criticize President Carter for Arming Dictators P 12 1/D9

CUBA

Raul Castro Meets With Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow Q 1 1/D10
Hart Returns to Moscow After 3 Days in Uzbekistan Q 1 1/D10
Meets With Lapin Q 1 1/D10
Castro Thanks Brezhnev, Kosygin for Anniversary Message Q 2 1/D11
Carter Will Sell Morocco Planes To Fight POLISARIO Front Q 2 1/D11
Angolan Communique Notes Zairian, South African Aggression Q 2 1/D11
Nicaraguan National Guard Kills 8, Wounds 20 Demonstrators Q 2 1/D11
Dominican Delegation Goes to Santiago de Cuba Q 3 1/D12
Further Reportage on Metallurgical Workers Congress Q 3 1/D12
Main Report Approved Q 3 1/D12
National Committee Elected Q 4 1/D13
Congress Ends Q 4 1/D13
Garcia Frias Chairs Transportation Ministry Meeting Q 5 1/D14
Granma PCC Provincial Committee Holds Second Plenum Q 5 1/D14
Valdes Chairs Meeting on Cement Factories Emulation Q 5 1/D14

CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

House of Assembly Approves Oil Exploration Bill S 1 1/E1

JAMAICA

Citizens, Security Forces To Form Community Councils S 1 1/E1
[DAILY GLEANER 27 Jan]

ST. LUCIA

Premier Compton Calls for Strong CARICOM S 2 1/E2
[ADVOCATE-NEWS 25 Jan]

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Cabinet Protests Over University Television Experiment S 3 1/E3
[SUNDAY GLEANER 29 Jan]

GUYANA

Jagan Urges Salary Cut, Restructuring of Defense T 1 1/E4
[DAILY GLEANER 28 Jan]
Prime Minister Receives LCY-SAWPY Joint Delegation [TANJUG] T 2 1/E5
14 New Police Officials Appointed in Guyana T 2 1/E5
[SUNDAY GLEANER 29 Jan]

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PANEL NOTES CHILEAN MANEUVERINGS ON BORDER

PY0121l4Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0745 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb--A group of jurists and experts in the Beagle case has participated in a program called Project 2000, which is broadcast over Channel Seven. They are Professor of Law Jose A. Campobassi, Capt Jose Nosiglia (ret) and Doctors Eduardo Basualdo Moine and Julio Irazusta.

Captain Nosiglia stated that very reliable and responsible sources have reported a number of actions carried out by Chile since 2 May, 1977. He said that Chile has militarily occupied the Hornos Islands, whose Atlantic side belongs to Argentina, that it has reinforced the crews of their warships and that it has acquired U.S. and French airplanes and helicopters, respectively, in large numbers. He also indicated that Chile has acquired ammunition and weapons from Europe through a $100 million line of credit from Spain and a $50 million line of credit from Germany, that it has purchased antiaircraft artillery from another country and is now negotiating the purchase of air materiel.

Captain Nosiglia added that personnel in the Chilean sector of Tierra del Fuego an Andean passes have been strengthened, that new watchtowers have been installed in the southern islands and that those which have been abandoned were reestablished. Some Chileans have already occupied some islands which are partly in the Atlantic, and reconnaissance flights were carried out in border areas over Argentine territory. In this regard, he emphasized that on 18 December, 1977, three Chilean airplanes flew over a sector of San Carlos de Bariloche and that on 11 January they flew over the La Casualidad mines in Salta.

He also reported that in August, 1977, Chilean Rio Turbio miners periodically failed to report to their jobs in order to receive military instruction in Chile. He said: "They could not leave their country if at the border they did not present a card from the Chilean Army reporting that they had fulfilled the appropriate military training." He also pointed out that by Superior Decree No 36 of the War Undersecretariat, promulgated on 20 May, 1977, the classes from 1936 to 1956--that is, 20--were called to the principal Chilean Army units the Cubett Motorized Regiment, the Sofanor Parra Regiment in Puerto Natales and the Patagonian Telecommunications Regiment.

More than 2,000 reservists were called in August, 1977, to Puerto Natales which, as is known, is very near the border. All reservists, including the Rio Turbio miners, receive military training twice a week. The carabineros and army forces are carrying out joint activities and all carabinero posts received army reinforcements both in men and weapons.

Captain Nosiglia also said that by mid-October, 1977, military reinforcements arrived from Quillota and Puerto Montt to Punta Arenas.

After mentioning that the landing strip in San Sebastian, in the great island of Tierra del Fuego, 3 km from the border, has been improved since September, 1977. He stated: "We must take into account that important hydrocarbon deposits are being exploited on the contiguous Argentine border."

After 2 May 1977, several units of paratroopers were sent to Punta Arenas, several southern regiments were doubled in number and from that date Chile began maneuvering its armed forces and began occupying its strategic points, which have naturally alarmed our armed forces.

POLICE SMASH FOUR-NATION COCAINE RING

FY012023Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1628 GMT 1 Feb 78 FY

[Summary] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb--An international drug trafficking ring was discovered today by Argentine police. Investigations indicated that Jorge Villarino headed the ring from Milan, Italy, where he resided while directing the drug organization which had branches in Chile, Bolivia and Argentina. The organization's operational epicenter was in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. There, the organization had its own crops and laboratories to make cocaine hydrochloride which was then sent through varius routes to Milan.

According to police reports, Villarino was supplied with 110 kilograms of almost pure cocaine during the last 10 months.

One of the organizations's branches was discovered in Guernica by Argentine police. Police detained Gaston Sepulveda-Oquendon, a 32-year-old Chilean chemist, and Arnaldo Yanez Aguilera, a 31-year-old Chilean, at a luxurious residence located in that city. They had been operating a clandestine laboratory where police found large amounts of cocaine base and cocaine hydrochloride.

Police seized 10 kilograms of almost pure cocaine, 5 kilograms of the drug in the process of elaboration, and 800 grams of xylocaine and novocaine, which are used to stabilize cocaine hydrochloride during long trips. The police also found 10 liters of sulphuric acid, 5 liters of hydrochloric acid and 9 drums of ether and ethyl alcohol.

Nineteen persons were arrested. Five of those arrested are Chileans. The names of those detained are: Rafael Martinez, or Luis Alberto Martinez, Chilean, 54; Hugo Enrique Castro-Bravo, Chilean, 22; Gaston Elias Sepulveda Oquendo, Chilean, 32: Arnaldo Yanez Aguilera, Chilean, 41; and Janet Parra Figueroa, Chilean, 29.

Others who were arrested are: Jose Roberto Rodirguez, Miguel Angel Desimone, Mario Escobar Roman, Carlos Daniel Pena Avendado, Rosa del Carmen Castro Jaramillo, Morich Drack, [name indistinct] Lopez, Graciela [name indistinct], [name indistinct], Alicia Carmen Sandoval de Santa Maria, Rafael Martinez Salas, Silvana Edith Martinez Salas de Pena Avendado, Marta Susana Escobar Roman and Laura Julia Salas de Roman.

The police also reported that Hugo Scarpizo, Juan Carlos Rossi, Cachol Castillo, Carlos Vidal, Angel Munoz, Rene Herrera and someone known as Chamorro had been collaborating with Villarino.

Those in charge of transporting and embarking the drug in Chile were Roberto Fuentes, Chilean; Isabel de Fuentes, Chilean; Berta Munoz, Chilean; and someone known as Troqui.

LANUSSE SAID ARRESTED FOR BEAGLE REMARKS

FY012009 Paris AFP in Spanish 1947 GMT 1 Feb 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb--According to a leak today from military sources, the Argentine Military Government has presumably placed former President Lt Gen Alejandro Lanusse (ret) under a 15-day arrest. According to the same sources, the former chief of state was punished for having remarked about certain classified documents concerning the Beagle Channel, which is in litigation between Argentina and Chile.

VIDELA RECEIVES PRC AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

FY011636Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Feb 78 FY

[Text] President Jorge Rafael Videla this morning received the credentials of Hsu Chung-fu, new ambassador from the People's Republic of China, in the White Room of Government House.

WHEAT EXPORTS TO CONTINUE DESPITE POOR HARVEST

FY011439Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Feb 78 FY

[Text] Jorge Zorreguieta, agriculture under secretary, has asserted that it will not be necessary to import wheat for domestic consumption, despite the 53-percent production fall in the latest harvest. Secretary Zorreguieta, who is also president of the National Grain Board, reported to the press on domestic supply, export, international wheat prices, soybean production and other subjects of current interest.

When asked the reason for the reduction in wheat production, he said that farmers do not produce only wheat. He explained that the Argentine farmer is aware of what happens on the international market. When prices went down, he reacted by sowing less wheat and by increasing the area for other products, he said. Regarding wheat production he then said that this meant that the country would restrict exports to 1.3 million tons.

He then explained that when we initially estimated production at 7 million tons, we thought it suitable to interrupt wheat exports when reaching that figure. He said that present production will be just sufficient to satisfy domestic consumption, which now totals about 300,000 tons of wheat per month. He then stated that he was in favor of not canceling already signed export agreements, because he was of the opinion that commitments are commitments, and the country should respect them, he said. If we have made commitments for 1.3 million tons, we have to fulfill them, he stressed.

He then said that in any case, although I believe we have not reached this situation, it will be necessary to act with caution in our consumption, and I believe that we will thus reach the next harvest satisfactorily. When asked about the international wheat price he said that prices improved between last spring and the beginning of 1978 from $90 per ton FOB Buenos Aires to $118 for March. Prices improved because of the relation between supply and demand.

BRIEFS

SOUTHERN NAVAL AREA COMMANDER--Rear Adm Jose Nestor Estevez has been appointed commander of the southern naval area with headquarters in Ushuaia. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Feb 78 FY]

RELAY STATIONS--San Juan, 26 Jan--Construction of the buildings for microwave relay stations between San Juan and the national network is finished. The National Telecommunications Enterprise will soon begin the technical installations. The system will have a 112-meter-high antenna and will use three independent systems: One will serve to relay television and the other two for telex, telephone and telegraph. The system designed for television will be operating before the World Soccer Cup takes place. The other two will begin operating before the end of the year to link San Juan with Buenos Aires, Cordoba and Mendoza. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1155 GMT 26 Jan 78 FY]

COURTS RELEASE SIX FORMER DETAINEES, EXILE ONE

PY311253Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2257 GMT 30 Jan 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 30 Jan--It was learned here that the Bolivian Government released six political and union leaders today, while another one was exiled to Buenos Aires. After being detained for periods of from 6 months to 2 years, the seven political and union leaders had been put at the disposal of the courts as a result of the restricted amnesty which was issued by the government on 21 December, 1977. They were released because the court did not find sufficient cause to continue their detention.

Those released are Huan Hoys Velasquez, miner; Julio Mercado, Cochabamba factory worker leader; Zenon Barrientos, former National Revolutionary Movement peasant congressman; Fernando Campero, university student leader; Angel Pillco, secondary school student; and Cesar Sahonero. Ruben Romero, son-in-law of mayor Ruben Sanchez, who was secretary of former President Jose Torres, was exiled to Buenos Aires.

Following this measure, 12 persons are detained in Bolivia for political reasons. They are at the disposal of the courts.

PEREDA ASBUN MAKES BID FOR FSB LABOR SUPPORT

PY020103Y La Paz Radio La Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Leaders of the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] announced to Radio La Cruz del Sur that the military candidate, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, has requested a meeting with the top-ranking leadership of the FSB's labor seftor in order to ask them to support his presidential campaign.

According to the report, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun held a very long meeting with members of the FSB's labor sector at the political headquarters on [name indistinct] street. According to the report we received, the FSB's labor sector submitted several proposals to Pereda Asbun. It is not yet known whether, after this meeting, the FSB will support the official candidate.

The FSB convention will take place on 20 February in La Paz.

CHURCH URGES DIGNITY IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

PY311245Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 30 Jan 78 PY

[Summary] The Bolivian Catholic Church has urged the political parties to face the pre-election process which the country is experiencing with respect and without violence, and demanded that the government comply with its promise that there will be democratic, free and clean elections on 9 July.

"A document entitled: 'The Bishops Speak' was approved over the weekend by the Permanent Episcopal Committee and released during the last few hours."

The statement refers to democratization and recent events in the country and gives instructions to Catholics concerning the coming elections.

Among recent events, the document refers to the hunger strike, the raids which were carried out, the human rights violations and the fact that at one time the church and the state were in very strong confrontation. It also outlines some guidelines which all parties concerned should follow during the current process, urging that the parties take into account basic rights and the freedom of man.

"The episcopal declaration urges the political parties to develop their campaigns with dignity, mutual respect, honesty and without any type of violence. "It also urges the government to comply with its promise that the elections will be truly democratic, free and clean."

MNR FACTION SAYS PAZ ESTENSSORO PART OF PAST

PY0101515Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2205 GMT 31 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Cochabamba, Bolivia, 31 Jan--Jaime Arellano, top leader of the National Revolutionary Movement of the People [MNR del Pueblo], remarked here today that former President Victor Paz Estenssoro "has passed into the history of the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) and of the country." Arellano also indicated that to continue to await the return and the directives of the old former president has no sense and that the Bolivian nationalist forces will have to support the official candidacy of Gen Juan Pereda Asbun in the 9 July elections.

The MNR of the People is a dismemberment of the MNR faction which is faithful to Paz Estenssoro, which has some influence, especially in Cochabamba Department. Arellano strongly criticised the MNR dismemberment headed by Ruben Julio Castro, which also proclaimed its support for the candidacy of Pereda Asbun.

Meanwhile, leaders who remain faithful to the leadership of Victor Paz announced that he will return to the country from Washington, where he has remained in exile up to the present time, during the second half of February. It was reported that Paz will live in Cochabamba for climatic reasons.

SOUTHERN DEPARTMENTS THREATEN WORK STOPPAGES

PY0201467 Paris AFP in Spanish 0038 GMT 2 Feb 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 1 Feb--The three departments in southern Bolivia--Chuquisaca, Potosi and Tarija--are supposed to begin a general work stoppage if the government does not approve a series of proposals for the regional development program. Representatives of the Planning Ministry were conducting hectic negotiations with the Civic Bloc [bloque civico] in the south to try to find a solution to the crisis.

The Civic Bloc gave the government until tonight to answer its (?demands). These demands center mainly around the installation of mining and agricultural industries and the construction of a highway network considered vital to the region's development. The Civic Bloc's representatives affirmed that the three departments would paralyze all public and private activities tomorrow if an agreement was not reached.

BRAZIL GOVERNMENT WILL WAIT FOR NETHERLANDS' URANIUM DECISION

PY020133Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2141 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 1 Feb--The Brazilian Government will wait for the conditions related to the decision made today by the Netherlands Parliament, authorizing the conditional delivery of enriched uranium to Brazil, to be made known before giving its reply.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said: "The Brazilian Government will accept what has already been proposed by the three member nations of URENCO [uranium consortium] (the FRG, Great Britain and the Netherlands) with regard to the storage of plutonium only if no modifications are made." "The Brazilian Government will wait for the explanation which the Netherlands Government will surely offer before it makes any comment on the situation," the spokesman concluded.

Observers here recalled that last month Brazil accepted various conditions imposed by the three member nations of URENCO for the delivery of enriched uranium for Brazilian nuclear plants which is to begin in 1981. The problem now is knowing whether the Netherlands Government will impose safeguards or restrictions on the agreement reached last month. As indicated in the communique issued today by the Foreign Ministry, this will not be accepted by the Brazilian Government.

ARENA DEPUTY DISCUSSES NUCLEAR PLANS WITH FIGUEIREDO

PY312221Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2052 GMT 31 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 31 Jan--Government Deputy Nina Ribeiro stated here today that Brazil should build its own nuclear installations in order to overcome its geographical limitations [para corregir su geografia]. Ribeiro, a member of the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA], said these ideas had been presented to the country's future president, Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, during a meeting yesterday in Brasilia.

The deputy added that this theory "will serve to overcome our geographical limitations, even though it scares many people," by connecting the Amazon and Rio San Francisco Basins which traverse practically all of northeast Brazil, an arid region constantly suffering from severe droughts.

The legislator said that during his meeting with General Figueiredo he had also defended the need for Brazil "not to accept demands which would turn us into a technologically dependent nation." The deputy concluded by saying that "our very concept of sovereignty has already been lessened by the acceptance of controls and demands for exaggerated guarantees within our own territory to satisfy URENCO." [European uranium consortium]

Government Rejects Call for Bomb

PY011611Y Aparecida Radio Aparecida in Portuguese 1430 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Remarks made by ARENA Deputy Nina Ribeiro regarding the need to build atomic weapons reflect only a personal opinion and not the government's. The Brazilian Government has no desire to build nuclear weapons.

This statement was made by Itamaraty spokesman Luis Felipe Lampreia, to deny remarks made by Nina Ribeiro which had made the main headlines of the Brazilian press media.

Nina Ribeiro had said that he told Gen Joao Baptista de Figueiredo about the need to build atomic bombs to correct our geographic situation.

PARAGUAYAN MINISTER SPEAKS IN SAO PAULO

PY011131Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Jan 78 p 29 PY

[Text] "Although the truth may hurt, Brazil is of fundamental importance among Latin American nations. Because of the way economic and political relations are going, we are involved in a process in which inexorably the larger countries have to help the smaller countries."

That was from a speech made by Paraguayan Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion during a meeting of the Coordination Council of the Sao Paulo Industry and Commerce Federation in which he participated as honored guest.

The Paraguayan minister, who came to Sao Paulo to make a series of contacts with Sao Paulo industrialists, said that "it is necessary to reactivate trade between the two countries, despite current or future occasional disagreements." Centurion said that the industrialization of Paraguay, through increased commercial relations with Brazil, is intended to increase Paraguay's per capita income--about $700 now--so that the government can qualify for more substantial credits from the large international banking organizations.

The Paraguayan industry and commerce minister revealed that his country's government has approved Brazilian industrial projects in Paraguay to the tune of $147 million over the last 4 years. A steel plant and a cellulose plant, calling for investments of $76 million and $45 million respectively, are the two most important projects.

Ugarte Centurion wants to contact liquefied petroleum gas [LPG] suppliers in Sao Paulo, since currently Paraguay wholly depends on Argentina for its supply of LPG. As to possible export losses Brazil may have in the field of electric-electronic equipment as a result of the current frequency difference which has been maintained between the two countries, Centurion said that "contrary to what it may seem, Brazil continues to be the largest supplier of that type of equipment to Paraguay."

ITAMARATY CRITICIZES OAS VOTE AGAINST URUGUAY

PY012333Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2116 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 1 Feb--The Brazilian Government today criticized a decision adopted yesterday by the OAS, which refused to hold the next general assembly in Montevideo. A Brazilian Foreign Ministry communique indicates that "Brazil is sorry that the OAS has established a precedent of not accepting the offer made by a Latin American country to host the general assembly."

Brazil voted in favor of holding this assembly in Montevideo. Another 11 member countries also voted favorably, but 17 is the minimum number of votes required. Three countries, the United States, Venezuela and Panama, voted no and 10 abstained.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS SIMONSEN'S ECONOMIC PLANS

PY011433Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Commentary by Alberto Tamer: "The Meetings Between Minister Simonsen and Sao Paulo Businessmen"]

[Text] The finance minister made two speeches yesterday, one at the Commerce Federation to more than 500 businessmen and the other at a seminar on national economy. Summarizing both speeches, Simonsen said nothing new, and what he did say can be put into a well-known phrase: 1978 will be neither an easy nor a hard year. The idea is not to freeze the economy, said Simonsen, but businessmen must carefully study their investments. Simonsen thinks that this is not a moment for pessimism, but that nobody must delude himself into thinking that it will be possible to build an economy based only on slogans, or on extreme options such as unrestrained inflation or economic recess, salary restrictions or generous salary increases.

Simonsen said that the economy should be steered down the middle of the road, and this is what the government is trying to do. He believes that the worst is already over. Brazil overcame the worst of the oil crisis by growing at a rate of 7 percent, and this year the growth rate should be 5 percent, which he considers quite satisfactory, in general terms.

We cannot, said Simonsen, expand the internal market too much--not as much as we want, but only as much as we can. We cannot discourage exports, because our great economic problems continue to be inflation, the trade deficit and the foreign debt. Simonsen, however, gives priority to the policy of inflation control and has been taking severe actions. This control cannot be reconciled with any attempt at generosity in salaries, public expenses or monetary expansion. This is the policy of President Geisel.

In sum, the ideal, said Simonsen, would be to achieve the maximum, but we would be happy to achieve the minimum. Technically, Simonsen is absolutely right, but the truth is that it is not always easy to apply economically ideal measures in a country with the difficulties Brazil has. What has happened in recent years is proof of this.

NOBRE SAYS MDB CANNOT LEGALLY SUPPORT MAGALHAES PINTO

PY011926Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1811 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 1 Feb--Deputy Freitas Nobre [MDB--Sao Paulo State] reported here today that the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] cannot legally mention Senator Magalhaes Pinto as the MDB's candidate for the presidency.

Nobre, who is leader of the MDB, the only legal opposition party in Brazil, stated that "legally the MDB cannot support Magalhaes Pinto's candidacy for the presidency."

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER PRESTES DEPARTS BULGARIA

AU010856Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0830 GMT 1 Feb 78 AU

[Text] Luiz Carlos Prestes, Brazilian Communist Party secretary general, today departed Bulgaria. He had visited Bulgaria at the invitation of the BCP Central Committee. At Sofia Airport Comrade Prestes was seen off by Divitur Stanishev, BCP Central Committee secretary.

FRENCH FIRM GETS HELICOPTER CONTRACT INSTEAD OF BELL

PY012339Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2129 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 1 Feb--A private source indicated here today that the Aerospace Corporation of France has been authorized to manufacture helicopters in Brazil in accordance with a decision handed down by the Brazilian Industrial Development Council (CDI). The construction of the factory will begin very soon in the small city of Itajuba, Minas Gerais, approximately 100 kilometers from Sao Jose dos Campos, Brazil's leading aeronautics center.

The first type of helicopter to be manufactured will be the Ecureuil (squirrel), a 6-seater--including the pilot--which is believed to be the most appropriate for Brazilian civilian and military needs. Two hundred helicopters will be manufactured within the next few years. The HELIBRAS Corporation, created by the CDI decision, will have the Aerospace Corporation of France and the Minas Gerais government as major shareholders with a 45 percent participation each. A local concern, Fotos Aereas Cruzeiro do Sul, will also be a shareholder. The French corporation's authorization was at the expense of the U.S. firm of Bell, which had submitted a plan during the last few months.

$450 MILLION PAYMENTS SURPLUS POSTED FOR 1977

PY020154Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0130 GMT 2 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 1 Feb--The Brazilian balance of payments recorded a surplus of $450 million in 1977, Planning Minister Joao Paulo dos Reis Velloso announced here today. In 1976 the balance of payments posted a surplus of $7,192,000,000, compared with a $950 million deficit the year before.

BRIEFS

RUBBER PRODUCTION--Brazil's natural rubber production reached 22,554 tons in 1977, marking a 10-percent increase over the previous year. It is estimated that rubber production for this year will surpass 25,000 tons. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2240 GMT 31 Jan 78 PY]

PIG IRON EXPORTS--Brazil will export 100,000 tons of pig iron, valued at $75 million, to China [presumably the PRC] during the first semester of 1978. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1729 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY]

WAR MATERIEL FACTORY PLANNED--A modern factory for heavy land and naval war materiel will be built in Recife with the participation of the Italian enterprise Oto Malera, in association with the Iron and Steel Company of the Northeast [COSINOR] and the services of the Brazilian Representation Co. The factory will build artillery and tanks with the technology supplied by the Oto Melara Company. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2038 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY]

PINOCHET APPEALS FOR REDUCED FORCES ON BORDER

PY0112?8Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpts] Chilian President Augusto Pinochet has asked his Argentine colleague, Jorge Rafael Videla, to reduce the movement of units of the Argentine forces on their common border. This was stated in a report from Buenos Aires, which cited military sources as indicating that Pinochet's request was made in a letter delivered to General Videla by Chilean Ambassador Rene Rojas Galdames. The report added that a second meeting between the Argentine and Chilean presidents and a mission of Argentine Armed Forces secretary generals which was scheduled to come to Santiago this week will depend upon a review of Pinochet's letter by the Argentine military junta.

According to the Argentine press, despite Pinochet's asking for a reduction of troop movements and concentrations in the disputed border area, Pinochet reasserted in his letter (?yesterday) his good disposition toward an open dialog. The reports added that Videla told Ambassador Rojas Galdames he will give Pinochet's letter priority consideration, but that confirmation of the next presidential meeting will depend on the conclusions of the review by the military junta.

Reliable sources close to the Chilean Foreign Ministry indicated that the announced second meeting between Presidents Pinochet and Videla will not mean a change in Chile's position regarding the British arbitral decision, which was fully accepted by the Chilean Government.

Regarding this second meeting, the location and date of which is strictly secret, the sources indicated that the presidents will discuss jurisdictional issues in the southern area.

ERCILLA LINKS BEAGLE ISSUE, ARGENTINE POLITICS

PY0l1946Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1516 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 1 Feb--A local magazine stated the opinion today that the solution of the Chilean-Argentine border dispute in the Beagle Channel depends on the settlement of Argentina's internal problems. In a long article on the Beagle problem, the weekly ERCILLA said that "the Argentine internal crisis influences its international positions."

It then pointed out that it should not be forgotten that "the Argentine Government junta is in itself the executive branch. Videla, Massera and Agosti each have one third of the total power."

The magazine also stressed that observers have pointed out that "Admiral (Emilio) Massera is the one who has political ambitions." The magazine stated: "(Massera) has maintained the thesis of the fourth man in the junta, as a step to leave Fidela as a nominal president, with power falling to the junta, composed of the commanders in chief of the branches of the armed forces. He would thus be able to maneuver more easily."

ERCILLA then pointed out that "the disagreements between Massera and Videla over Beagle have been notorious." It added that whereas the latter has stated that Argentina respects its international commitments, Massera has been the man who has made his position "win" in the Beagle question.

Stressing this, the magazine said that (Massera) is now reaping the fruits of his campaign. In the eyes of the Argentine public he is the "defender of the sovereignty of the fatherland." It suggested, however, that the Argentines again have a foreboding that "their political path is not clear."

The magazine concluded: Massera believes that he is the right way. Just now there is a serious obstacle, called the army, in the way of his philosophy.

EL MERCURIO QUESTIONS NEED TO ARREST EX-POLITICIANS

Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 17 Jan 77 p 3 WA

[EDITORIAL: "Violation of the Political Recess"]

[Text] Sixteen members of the former Christian Democratic Party were arrested by the security services and 12 of them were transferred to towns in the interior of Arica, while the rest were freed after identifying themselves. According to reports, the arrests and the transfers were due to the fact that these persons were holding a meeting in violation of the political recess.

There is no question that under the state of siege now in effect, the authorities can transfer persons from one department to another. Formally, then, the transfer decrees do not pose any legal problem.

From a political point of view, this measure may be considered a reaction by the government designed to issue a warning that neither the National Consultation nor the university debates or other discussion of institutional issues have resulted in breaking or weakening the party recess. The military administrtion is continuing to adhere to the policy lines it laid down at the outset, which the junta's adversaries as well as its adherents must bear in mind.

The transferred persons have entered an appeal for the court's protection. This appeal raises questions regarding what is meant by a political meeting. Is it enough for politics to be discussed at a meeting for it to be considered political? But members of a former party who meet exclusively among themselves, without including anyone outside the party, could be talking about private business or any other matter aside from politics.

At the same time, a meeting could be held by individuals who did not belong to any of the political parties which existed before 11 September, 1973, but who could be carrying on political activities nevertheless. One cannot dismiss the possibility that these activities could even go so far as to seriously endanger the national security.

A politcal meeting is not one where politicians or former politicians gather. Rather it is a meeting whcih sets forth a partisan objective. The subject is complex. The nation's skill in avoiding this type of excessively broad action finds room to render them inoperative. Subjects of a political nature masquerade as art, social science, or simply as humanitarian activities. It is really difficult to establish an objective standard to define when a meeting in which analysis or political planning is carried on violates the party recess. Although supposition or serious suspicions exist that a certain meeting had the sole purpose of gathering together former members of a party with the purpose of continuing partisan activity, proving this is not easy, nor is it easy to determine the seriousness and extent of the undertaking presumably planned.

In this situation the government confronted these doubts and problems with a simple act of pure power, with a decision authorized under the state of siege in effect, which makes it unnecessary to specify the cause or basis for the action.

Such a decision must necessarily be discriminatory. It will be applied to meeting A, but not to meeting B. We run the risk that certain groups of citizens will feel the weight of the government authority, while others which may be acting more dangerously, are temporarily at least, free of security measures. One of the characteristics of a state of siege is precisely the discretionary nature of the measures taken against persons, and it would be pointless to pretend that there is an equitable and objective standard which regulates these extreme actions. This is why such extraordinary powers are granted for a limited time, aside from being entrusted to a ruler's morality and prudence.

Without allowing ourselves to judge these supreme discretionary decisions on their own merits, since we must assume that they were made for unavoidable national security reasons, we believe that the government's overwhelming victory in National Consultation would permit due readjustment of the recess imposed on party politics, to free the authorities from resorting to discretionary measures devoid of explicit justification that clash with the nation's character. Many will think that the 12 transferred persons are being punished and have been sentenced without a hearing. Yet the infrequent nature of these exceptional measures creates confusion about their true character, a confusion which appears to deepen and worsen as their effects are extended.

The government is proving effective and showing that the national reconstruction is vindicating itself for the immense majority of the country. The country's present situation provides no environment for partisan politics. Therefore, there is no apparent reason for the authorities to need forceful measures against former political party members to maintain a situation which is being sustained rationally and which is popular.

12 PDC MEMBERS TRANSFERRED TO AFRICA FOR CONFINEMENT

PY011833Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] The 12 members of the dissolved Christian Democratic Party [PDC] who were confined to several localities of the 1st region of Chile in January will continue their period of confinement in the city of Arica. This measure was taken after they appealed to the legal provisions of the current political recess in Chile.

The relocation was decided by the supreme court justice, and the government released the following communique:

"The government, in agreement with its permanent attitude of strict respect for the decisions of the Chilean courts, has notified the group of people confined in several localities of the 1st region that they can choose the place within Arica Province where they will continue the confinement ordered by Decrees No 2408, 2409 and 2410 of the Interior Ministry.

"The measure was carried out on 27 January 1978, and these people were transferred to Arica, the city which they choose to continue the confinement provided for in the decrees mentioned."

GOVERNMENT CANCELS COOPERATIVA REGIONAL STATIONS' PERMITS

PA011902Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1530 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 1 Feb (EFE)--Nine regional radio stations of the Cooperativa Network, which is considered to be pro-Christian Democrat, last night stopped operating in accord with a government order cancelling their permits. The cancellation order is the result of action taken 3 months ago by the government which refused to renew the permits requested by the Chilean Communications Company, which owns the stations, before they expired. Another station which belongs to the same network will be on the air for only 3 more weeks, and then it will stop operating for the same reason. Cooperativa Network, which was the largest in the country, now only has three radio stations: one in Santiago, one in Valparaiso and one in Temuco.

FOUR COMMUNISTS ARRESTED FOR SUBVERSION

PY011610Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1524 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Temuco, Chile, 1 Feb--Four members of the proscribed Chilean Communist Party were arrested on charges of carrying out "subversive" activities by members of the military government security forces, it was reported here today. The two women, one professor and one student arrested, whose names were not given, are members of the so-called "Antifascist Unity" [Unidad Antifascista]. The military attorney of Temuco, 680 kms south of Santiago, has requested a military court trial for the arrested leftists.

Temuco Cells Broken Up

PY011835Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Two cells of the proscribed communist party were broken up in Temuco after security forces detained a university student, a professor and two women. It was also reported that some 40 people, whose names and aliases are listed in seized documents, are fugitives.

The cells were called Antifascist Unity and Resistance, and their first activities date back to 1976-1977, when Temuco was invaded by seditious people who sponsored subversion against the military government. At that time the security forces began operations, and after long inquiries they detained a worker, a mason and a professor, charged with cooperating in the writing of pamphlets. The key person of this subversive movement is named "Camilo," listed as chief of the regional committee of the clandestine Communist Party. The military attorney requested a military trial for the detainees. The identification of the detainees and fugitives is not known.

FIVE DETAINED AFTER DISCOVERY OF WEAPONS SHOP

PY271400Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Santiago--Police sources report that security officers have detained the leader of the extremist group which ran the arms factory and clandestine press found in a Tupamaro-type hideout in a machine shop located at (?895) Juarez St.

With the detention of the alleged head of the extremist group which ran the arms factory, the clandestine press and the machine shop owned by the Socialist Party, there are reportedly five extremists in detention. Their names have not been released so as not to hinder the investigation of extremist activities by police and security officers.

MIR PLAN FOR ELECTRICAL SABOTAGE DISCOVERED

PY271358Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] had planned to sabotage high and low voltage electrical substations throughout the country from February to August, 1978.

This plan was discovered during a raid by national security officers in a house at 9192 Estados Unidos St, in the La Florida neighborhood. During this 18 January raid extremist (Germand Jesus Cortes Rodrigues) was killed.

The extremists had been able to (?train) monitors [monitores] and had a manual containing all the instructions needed for this plan.

BRIEFS

JANUARY INFLATION RATE--The National Statistics Institute [INE] reported today that inflation increased by 1.8 percent in January. This rate was the lowest increase recorded in the country since October, 1971. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2252 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY]

MORE MERCHANT MARINE SHIPS--The Chilean merchant marine will receive six more cargo ships with a total tonnage of 159,440 between February and November of this year. The ships are now being built by Japanese and Brazilian shipyards. The incorporation of these new ships will increase the merchant marine's tonnage capacity by 25 percent. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0120 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY]

OCEANOGRAPHY RESEARCH IN ANTARCTIC--Oceanography and transport vessels belonging to the Chilean Antarctic Institute have carried out many activities in the Chilean Antarctic region. Both of these ships are part of the 1977-1978 Antarctic Task Force. The ships, together with the helicopters stationed at the (?Pardo) pilot ship, have carried out scientific activities in support of programs conducted by the Chilean Hydrographic and Antarctic Institutes. These two institutions are carrying out important studies in the area of marine biology, geology, meteorology, icthyology, ecology and others. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Jan 78 PY]

FIRE DAMAGES RADIO STATION--Chillan--The building where Radio los Heroes had been operating caught fire and was practically destroyed. This radio station was recently closed because its concession had expired. The material damage has not been evaluated yet and there is no report on whether the building was insured. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY]

CONSTITUTIONALIST FRONT DISSENTERS EXPLAIN POSITIONS

PA011646Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpt] Shortly before returning to Guayaquil, Francisco Huerta Montalva announced that the Liberal Party is working to unite all the center-leftist parties in a new front that reflects the desires of the Ecuadorean people. Asked about the reasons for his withdrawal from the Constitutionalist Front, the Liberal Party leader answered:

[Begin recording] Although it is known that the Radical Liberal Party was one of the original sponsors of the (?Constitutionalist Front), [passage indistinct] we felt that we had advanced to the point of having a center-leftist candidate representing this front for the presidency of the country. [words indistinct] It would seem that the results of the referendum led to a center-rightist candidacy of Sixto Duran Ballen, so much so that, even before the front had reached a decision, in this very place, the Colon Hotel, (?there was) talk about the possibility of my being his running mate, of my accompanying him on the electoral slate as vice president.

This attitude and those remarks within and outside the front led us to believe that before discussing candidates and deciding important resolutions, it was necessary to discuss the party platform. We were not able to do that, and the Liberal Party had no alternative but to withdraw from the front.

[Question] Dr Huerta, some political observers have said that this is an error of political tactics on the part of the Liberal Party. While at the beginning there was discussion of candidacies and resolutions, and not of the party platform which interested you, it is also true that there was a center-rightist consensus. [words indistinct]

[Answer] [words indistinct] There is an old Spanish proverb which says that everything reflects the color of (?its viewers eyes). Undoubtedly, this position has been harshly criticized. [lengthy passage indistinct] [end recording]

For his part, Manuel Araujo Hidalgo said that the standardbearers in the struggle for the reestablishment of constitutionality cannot and should not be persons who have been high-ranking officials of the three dictatorial regimes. What kind of example would we be setting for the country, Araujo Hidalgo asked, in justifying the position he took within the Constitutionalist Front.

[Begin recording--Manuel Arauja Hidalgo] We presented to the political committee of the Constitutionalist Front the following reasons for our position: We emphasized that this historic era in our country is one that seeks the reestablishment of a constitutional system in the country as opposed to the dictatorships that it has had in recent times. In other words, there are two opposing alternatives: On the one hand, the dictatorship, and on the other, the desire for a constitutional and democratic restitution in the country.

Therefore, we felt that there was a basic moral question involved, that we had to take the presentation of candidates to the Ecuadorean people seriously, and that the standard-bearers of the constitutional restitution must be citizens who would give no cause for (?objection). We could never support any such candidacy, certainly not the candidacy of high-ranking officials of the three dictatorial regimes, and particularly not of the dictatorship of Gen Guillermo Rodriguez Lara.

What kind of example would we be setting for the country if on the one hand we fight the dictatorship, in a search for a restoration of constitutionality, while on the other we want one of its collaborators to carry the flag of our movement? Do you not think that this would create a serious ideological, political and moral contradiction in the country?

[Question] Who has failed to honor the principle of unity within the Constitutionalist Front?

[Answer] I believe that no one has failed in this respect. The parties and groups which make up the center-left and the center-right, and who became members of the Constitutionalist National Front, believe in three fundamental principles:

1. We should struggle jointly for positive participation in the referendum.

2. We should demand that the military government hold legislative elections at the same time as the presidential elections, sothat there will be a full restoration of constitutionality, and

3. We aspired to participate as a bloc in the presidential elections of 16 July. This aspiration has not been realized. [end recording]

EIGHT CFP LEADERS RELEASED FROM JAIL IN GUAYAQUIL

PA311849Y Quito Cadena Del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 31 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpt] The general intendent of police tonight [30 January] ordered the release of eight leaders of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] who had been imprisoned since 15 January in Guayaquil's old coastal penitentiary. The top leader of the party, Asaad Bucaram, will be released on Saturday.

The political leaders who were released today are: Dr Aquiles Rodriguez Pereira, national director of the CFP; Marco (Antisa) Nunez; Daniel Alvarado Martinez; Carlos Julio (Bonedo) Marquez; Julio Paredes Cabrera; Rafael de la Cadena; (Efrain Yepez) and Omar Bucaram, the son of the top leader, Asaad Bucaram.

POLITICAL LEADERS PROTEST 'ARBITRARY' JAIL SENTENCE

PA311202Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0045 GMT 31 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 30 Jan (AFP)--The Ecuadorean political leaders who were released this morning after spending 15 days in jail for violating the ban on propaganda during the referendum have voiced their rejection of "this arbitrary sentence."

Julio Cesar Trujillo, of the Progressive Conservative Party; Oswaldo Hurtado, of the Christian Party; and Luis Gomez Izquierdo, of the Democratic National Union, voiced their rejection of this imprisonment without trial during a news conference. "We were never arraigned and were not allowed to appear before a judge or to defend ourselves against this arbitrary sentence," they said. Acting in unity, the released political leaders said that Government and Justice Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin "every day acts less like a minister of politics and more like a minister of the police and of prisons." "He is not offering any guarantees so that the democratic restructuring process may continue," they added.

According to the three politicians, "it is essential to replace him with another person who has a true democratic calling, is well versed in the respect for public freedoms and has enough vision to understand and value the historical political situation that Ecuador is currently experiencing."

PDC TO CALL FOR BLANK VOTE IN ELECTION

PY011733Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 1 Feb 78 p 13 PY

[Text of undated interview with President of the Paraguayan Christian Democratic Party Anibal Recalde Sosa]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is your opinion of the upcoming elections?

[Answer] There will be no elections on 12 February in Paraguay, but the staging of a repetitiously formal act uselessly trying to give legal status to an illegitimate situation, an act contrary to the principles of a republican democracy.

Our national history is in fact poor as far as authentic elections are concerned. The people have almost never had the opportunity to freely express their will, since the opposition parties have never been given opportunities equal to the official party. The parties in opposition to the government are condemned to a precarious existence, and their leaders and partisans continue to be persecuted, arrested or deported. The citizenry cannot express itself freely because the official party in fact holds the monopoly of the communication media.

[Question] How would you describe Paraguayan democracy?

[Answer] The question implies a reality which does not exist in Paraguay now. The communist countries call themselves peoples democracies, but the way we see it, no democratic regime exists in those countries either, in terms proposed by the PDC.

A true representative democracy is peace and order in freedom and with justice, i.e. a responsible, unrestricted and communitarian development of human potential, a development which cannot be achieved without constantly educating the people through the practice of civic and political liberties. As the basic condition for a democracy to be authentic and creative, peace presupposes the existence of a regime of justice within our nation as well as within the international community; it also presupposes the guarantee of fundamental rights and the full enforcement of a state of law.

The fundamental flaw of the present regime lies in the fact that the supreme law is the will of the nation's president, who in practice has absolute and unlimited power, not subject to effective institutional control to prevent arbitrariness and abuse of power.

[Question] Looking at past elections and at the upcoming elections, do you see anything in the behavior of the citizenry?

[Answer] In each election, despite the tremendous squandering of economic means by the official party, one can see a diminishing interest in those events on the part of the citizenry as a result of the antidemocratic system which is in force. The citizen votes because legal penalties are applied for not voting. It is important to point out also that the citizens who still have the right to vote although not the obligation, because of their age, do not exercise that right because their vote will not have any bearing on the country's destiny. Since we have no candidates for public offices, we will recommend that our followers cast blank votes. This will be a form of protest at not being allowed to participate as a party in the nation's political process.

PANEL DISCUSSES LA MANANA EDITORIAL ON U.S. AID

PY011749Y Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[From the "Taking the Pulse of the Nation" Roundtable program: discussion among (Ramon Diaz), (Manfredo Picatto), (Pablo Posatti), members of BUSQUEDA magazine and program coordinator (Danilo Arbilla--live]

[Summary] [Arbilla] "The newspaper LA MANANA published an editorial today under the title: 'U.S. Aid and Human Rights.' The editorial covers U.S. aid to several countries and the budget assigned to aid. The editorial states that LA MANANA has always believed this aid will never cover the damage suffered by developing countries in their economic exchange with the imperialist powers and that this aid does not even represent a very small part of the wealth U.S. enterprises have taken from the developing countries."

(Ramon Diaz), what is your opinion of this editorial?

[Diaz] From listening to the passage you just read it is difficult to have an opinion. I really have not read anything like this outside press reports of, let me say, Marxist tendencies. I would certainly like to know the basis of this editorial. Does it really represent the opinion of the newspaper? If I am pressed to give an opinion now, I would say that it is an irresponsible statement. I believe that trade with the United States and western Europe is vital to maintaining our standard of living. I believe we have received great benefits from this trade and we could even get greater benefits if this trade was freer. For example, trade with the EEC has been quite beneficial considering their agricultural protectionist policies. If we do not maintain trade with highly developed countries our population will certainly suffer the consequences of poverty.

We canonly improve our standard of living through trade with these--as the editorial calls them--imperialist powers. It is true that some of their protectionist policies affect us, but they are not really damaging our economy.

[Arbilla] The editorial also discusses President Carter's human rights policies and is against it.

[Diaz] With regard to Carter's human right policies I am a bit mixed up. Sometimes, I believe that Carter does not understand the problems which Chile and Uruguay have experienced. But we should also feel lucky that there is a government concerned with respect for human rights in the world, particularly in the USSR and Cuba, where it is so necessary, and in some Latin American countries where there may be some violations.

I can understand the proud statement of: Keep your aid; we do not want it; do not interfere in our affairs. This can be a comprehensible attitude. I particularly do not like aid. I believe we need capital, not charity.

[Unidentified speaker] I also disagree with this editorial. I feel Uruguayan, but I also feel part of a larger group, of an international society. It seems normal to me that a government should show concern for what happens beyond its borders, because I am also concerned for what happens to friends abroad. I am against this policy of nonintervention being advocated all over.

I believe intervention is many times inevitable because nonintervention means becoming disinterested, excluded from international society. Therefore Carter's policy will help enforce human rights. In general terms, I believe this is right. But I am not saying that this policy will necessarily be well applied. Therefore, I completely disagree with the editorial because I feel solidarity with the citizens of other countries who are going through difficult internal political situations. It is not right to say, that is their problem, it does not affect me. Because in some way or another it does affect me. We must exercise the power we have, just as the United States exercises its powers.

NEW ARMED FORCES COMMANDER DELIVERS ADDRESS

PY020057Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1500 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Text] Today's transfer of command does not change anything, because it will not cause any change either in ideology or in political, social or economic programs, the new commander of the Armed Forces, Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez, affirmed today. He added that many are the obstacles on the road toward our goals, because it is not possible to set straight and rebuild overnight a country which has been deteriorating for 20 years.

In a ceremony presided over by President Aparicio Mendez and attended by government officials, the commanders of the three military branches and the military attaches of many foreign embassies, General Alvarez took office this morning. General Alvarez received the emblem of the post from the outgoing armed forces commander, Gen Julio Cesar Vadora, who is going into retirement as prescribed by law. The ceremony was held on the parade ground at the building of the armed forces command at 0900 this morning. After the national anthem was played by the band of the General Artigas Military School, the transfer of power was conducted by Defense Minister Walter Ravetti. Immediately thereafter, General Alvarez delivered a speech touching on fundamental points of the national process. He referred to the political process and to the apparent slow pace with which it is being handled, harshly criticizing those who request foreign assistance for personal reasons, and he emphasized the tasks and the mission of the armed forces.

In a portion of his speech, General Alvarez said: [begin recording] The obstacles and interference placed on the road toward our objectives are many. Of course it is not possible to set straight and rebuild a country which has suffered a process of serious deterioration for more than 20 years. We have already done many things, but many more need to be done. We pledged to fully restore public morality when the armed forces left their traditional isolation from politics, to protect the nation's interests against groups' interests.

I understand, gentlemen, the motive and the advancement of our struggle have the bitter taste of dissatisfaction because of our apparent slowness in reaching our established goals. This has forced us to leave pieces of ourselves in the struggle. But let us remember that acceptance of the status quo and impatience are both bad advisers. I know that the idea which spurs the armed forces is to carry to completion as soon as possible the mission which they have voluntarily undertaken, in a daring attempt to work a miracle. But miracles in today's world can only happen through sacrifice and effort. We must work hard in order to have our dreams come true. We must work hard and well, without ever losing sight of the high ideals which motivate us.

The road which lies ahead requires that we strengthen our belief in these three basic postulates: 1) the traditional unity of the armed forces, as mirrored in the brave example of those who fell in the struggle before us; 2) the unshakable faith in the high objectives we set for ourselves which will result in the happiness and greatness of our people; and 3) the cautiousness and decision we should have in facing the ingenuous blindness of those who try to hold back our process and our statesmen, thinking that the attitude of the armed forces is nothing but cyclic behavior which is adopted just as readily as it is abandoned.

These are the people who do not hesitate to betray their fatherland by asking foreign assistance so that they may return someday with their burden of lack of patriotism and lack of political talent; these are the people who provide the sad example, despised by good Uruguayans, of their sad pilgrimage from kneeling bench to kneeling bench in foreign lands to beg for help from any person, commission or organization which, with their real or feigned knowledge of our real situation, may exert their influence to choke off our institutionalization plan. Those people seek in that way to satisfy their obsolete and ingenuous personal aspirations of returning to outmoded and repudiated practices and situations.

Communique numbers 4 and 7 of February 1973 issued by the armed forces to the Uruguayan people, of which we are an unseparable part, have been forgotten by some, just as they have forgotten that the economic and social guidelines issued in San Miguel and reviewed lately in Solis are not the type of demagogic promises of the old politics. These guidelines keep their total validity, with the necessary changes to adjust them to the continuously varying international situation which never stays the same in a constantly changing world from which we cannot isolate ourselves.

Conducted by the armed forces and the people, the general scheme which has been drawn so that the political and institutional process may develop and consolidate, will bring about a transfer of power to genuinely democratic institutions. These institutions will speed up the phase of national reconstruction, placing the nation's interests ahead of purely electoral interests to keep out any foreign ideological infiltration of any kind. Regarding this topic as well as the others I mentioned before, the plans which have been drawn will be continued, without any modification in the line of action made public by the armed forces. There might be only minor changes but always in line with the commitments made to insure their accomplishment. Social peace will be guaranteed by promoting development with security, the contemporary formula for peace.

Finally, in a military organization, in an army, in a country in which everything has been thought out, defined and programmed, I have already said enough because now is the time for action, not for words. We must place our confidence in the armed forces and hope they will continue to carry out their struggle and their work, because the fatherland calls for greatness, the people have expectations and the institutions are being reborn. Thank you very much. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER REACTS TO NEGATIVE OAS VOTE

PY312328Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2000 GMT 31 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 31 Jan--Uruguayan Foreign Minister Alejandro Rovira has expressed regret that the countries of the Americas today lost their opportunity to corroborate for themselves the true human rights situation in Uruguay.

Reacting to the vote issued in Washington today against electing Uruguay as the site of the next OAS general assembly, Foreign Minister Rovira stated that Uruguay has made this offer exercising its genuine rights and fulfilling a moral duty. But he added: "Those sister nations which abstained from voting and those which voted against this offer were exercising their genuine rights. We understand this and we respect it." He also said: "But we also deplore the fact that they have lost this opportunity." Previously, the foreign minister said that the offer submitted by Uruguay enabled all the sister nations, their foreign ministers, advisors, journalists, and OAS officials to see for themselves the truth about "the national situation regarding human rights and the general national situation as a whole."

ROVIRA SAYS FAO MEETING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST

PY012013Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1500 GMT 1 Feb 78 PY

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Rovira announced that there will be an FAO meeting in our country in August 1978. Sources close to our government believe that it is very important that this meeting be held in Uruguay. Rovira indicated that he believes that it is a good opportunity for the delegations to get to know the nation's internal situation, taking into account the already known rejection by the OAS.

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT QUADRUPLES--The Uruguayan trade deficit exceeded $115 million during 1977. Uruguayan exports during 1977 were $526 million and imports were $642 million. The 1976 trade deficit was $27 million. [Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 78 PY]

UMDC POLITICAL COMMITTEE CONDEMNS CHILEAN REGIME

PA011215Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2129 GMT 31 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 31 Jan (AFP)--The Political Committee of the Christian Democratic World Union [UMDC] today condemned the measures recently adopted by the Chilean Government against Christian Democratic politicians and demanded that they be rescinded immediately. At the end of 2 days of meetings, the committee approved resolutions to promote the democratic development of Latin America, the defense of human rights and the solution of conflicts which threaten peace in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

The committee said that the confinement ordered by the Chilean military regime of Christian Democratic leaders, including former Senate President Tomas Reyes Vicuna, violates the freedoms of speech, assembly and association. It demanded that the measures be abolished together with others "which curtail the right of many Chileans to live in their fatherland." It declared its solidarity with the Chilean Christian Democratic Party's [PDC] efforts to reestablish democracy and to defend civilian and political rights. The committee announced that this resolution will be sent to all governments and will serve as a basis for UMDC action before world public opinion, governments and democratic political parties.

The committee received a letter from Eduardo Frei, president of the Chilean PDC, saying that he was not able to attend the meeting "because it was impossible for him to leave Chile at this time." He added that in Latin America "there is an irresistible and irreversible movement toward the recovery of democratic life, which no one can stop." Frei said that Christian Democracy should search for "a basic and broad consensus with men of other positions with the single condition that they remain truly loyal to upholding the democratic system."

This was adopted by the committee in its recommendations to all parties affiliated in Latin America to search "for a serious understanding with all democratic parties and social organizations for massive popular support for a joint action program which will ensure the democratization of the countries which are today subjected to authoritarian regimes." The Committee condemned the political systems which violate human rights and established a series of goals to promote respect for those rights, including the creation of a commission composed of Christian Democratic personalities.

The meeting of the UMDC Political Committee was presided over by Mariano Rumor, former Italian prime minister. Among those attending the meeting were Kai-Uwe von Hassel, president of the European Christian Democratic Union; Napoleon Duarte, president of the Christian Democratic Organization of America; Amintore Fanfani and Filipo Micheli (Italy); Heiner Geissler and Heinz-Gunther Husch (West Germany); Wilfried Martens, Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb and Robert Vandekerckhove (Belgium); Rene de Leon (Guatemala); Konrad Sieniewicz (France); Francisco E. Cerro (Argentine); Alirio Caycedo (Colombia); and Alberto Grillo (Costa Rica).

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS IN NIRGUA

PA311845Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 26 Jan 78 pp 1, 2-22 PA

[Excerpts] Nirgua, Venezuela (INNAC)--President Perez has said here that the government will keep its promose to remain impartial in the electoral process. During a news conference, the chief of state said that the fact that there is consultation regarding the appointment of the director of identification means that there is a desire for consensus.

At the press conference, the president said:

There is an unfortunate struggle occurring in the rural sector and several groups are involved. As a result, there has been a continual campaign to maintain the prestige and strength of each organization. I am speaking frankly to the producers, asking them not to continue on that mistaken path, which confuses the country and makes people think that agriculture is a bad business and that it is irremediable.

The truth is just the opposite. The yield of the 1977 harvest was not a miracle. It was the result of planting more seeds, planting more hectares, granting credits in time--and because many more credits now are being given than before. That is the truth.

The producers meet with me the first Sunday of each month. We discuss agricultural problems and try to resolve them. On 5 February I will meet with the representatives of CONFERURAL [Venezuelan Rural Confederation], the National Federation of Agricultural Producers (FEDEAGRO) and all the agricultural associations. I am sure that at that meeting they will not dare say what you attribute to them in the press for propaganda purposes.

I think we have achieved a lot. We have resolved the problem of land tenure by having the National Agrarian Institute grant agricultural documents to people who do not own the land they cultivate.

I can optimistically state that all those who want to farm in Venezuela can do so. Proof of this is the growth we are seeing in national agricultural production.

Now then, you speak of a food crisis. No, what we have is a crisis of growth. The consumption of food products has increased because today there are more people who eat, today there are more people who are earning income, today Venezuelans are better off. Despite the fact that the harvests are larger, we have to import agricultural products to meet increasing demands. We should be pleased for two reasons: First, because it shows us that social justice is advancing in all the country, that the policy of full employment is a reality and that the incorporation of abandoned regions and persons into the economy is a reality. Second, because greater consumption is also a stimulus for the production of agricultural products since the farmer knows he will have a buyer for his products.

(Question of Luis Leon Arocha, EL UNIVERSAL correspondent in San Felipe) Mr President, In your speech at the municipal council you acknowledged the agricultural importance of Nirgua. The Cabuy Dam in Salom which was built by the regional government has been paralyzed for more than 2 years. I am expressing the concern of more than 1,000 peasant families of this area who are in need of the dam's services to work and overcome poverty. What is your reply to this Mr President?

[Answer] As the governor indicated in his speech to the council, the treatment plant which is essential for the operation of the Cabuy Dam will be constructed this year. This year the dam will be providing services to the peasant region as well as supplying water to the city of Nirgua.

The free import decree expired on Monday. I have instructed the development minister to study the current situation and to give me a report on the status of imports before the end of the week in order to see whether or not it is advisable to keep some products on the free import list. This still has to be resolved.

As for the second question [as published] there has been a continuing effort to control the remnants of the violence forces during the 1960's, which were fortunately thwarted. The Interior Ministry will issue a communique making known the results of the investigations undertaken this week.

I believe that the electoral year will pass in total normality.

DEFENSE MINISTER REPORTS ARREST OF GUERRILLAS

PA3122214Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 27 Jan 78 p 1-22 PA

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Fernando Paredes Bello announced in Miraflores Palace yesterday the arrest of several outlaws [irregulare] who had seized the peasant settlement of Campo Claro on 23 January for several hours. Campo Claro, in Aragua District, Anzoategui State, is located 45 km from Aragua and 12 km from the town of Zaraza, Guarico State.

However, the defense minister said that "for obvious reasons" he could not release the names or the number of those arrested and undergoing questioning.

The armed group identified itself as belonging to the so-called Antonio Jose de Sucre guerrilla front. It seized the peasant settlement to urge electoral abstention.

[Question] Can this new action be interpreted as the re-emergence of violence in that zone?

[Answer] No, just the opposite because the armed forces and the state security groups have been pursuing these individuals who act outside the law. Events such as this are in reaction to the action undertaken by the armed forces. That is why we do not attach any importance to this.

[Question] Is it true that Douglas Bravo [a guerrilla leader] is in Caracas?

[Answer] I cannot confirm that.

[Question] What is the origin of the armaments found in eastern Venezuela?

[Answer] Various types of arms have been found. Some are old weapons. Others have been taken in attacks on the police. They come from various sources. There is no standardization, which means that these people do not have great logistical support.

[Question] What is your opinion on the charges of persecution of peasants on the Colombian-Venezuelan border by the National Guard?

[Answer] The National Guard has never persecuted the peasants or anyone else. It has always upheld the law. When the civilian authorities make requests, the National Guard fulfills its duty.

AIR FORCE CHIEF DENIES FORMAL REQUEST FOR F-5 PLANES

FL012219Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2114 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Feb (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Div Gen Hector Berthier Aguiluz, commander in chief of the Mexican Air Force, has strongly denied that Mexico had made a formal request for the purchase of F-5 combat planes from the United States. The report was disseminated yesterday by an international news agency. Berthier Aguiluz explained that Mexico had requested information on prices for the purchase of transport planes for the purpose of comparing prices. The situation became confused when the Washington correspondent of the newspaper EXCELSIOR filed statements made by U.S. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter III who maintained that Mexico had submitted to the United States a purchase order for 26 F-5 supersonic combat aircraft. "We are not authorized for the moment to comment on the requests of Mexico and Guatemala, except that we have received them" Carter said.

POLICE BREAK UP ARGENTINE ASSASSINATION GROUP

PA011821Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1727 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Feb (EFE)--Three Argentine agents who were sent to Mexico supposedly to kill or kidnap exiles were arrested by the Mexican police, a well-known political columnist disclosed today. Manuel Buendia, who reportedly has good access to information, revealed that on 17 January, Argentine Army Maj Pedro Julio Seaad, Capt Saul Malo and Agent Hector Gertrudis, the latter from the Buenos Aires police, were arrested. According to Buendia, the three Argentines were under arrest for 8 days and confessed that they were sent here by Gen Fortunato Gualtieri, chief of the Argentine Army II Corps.

The report says that Major Seaad came to Mexico as Manuel Gutierrez, Captain Malo as Serafin and Gertrudis as Machete. According to Buendia, Gertrudis' "speciality is killing Montoneros." Buendia also said that the Mexican police dealt harshly with the three Argentine security agents before they were sent back to their country, where they should have arrived on 25 January.

This is the second mission of its kind that has been broken up here. About 2 weeks ago, a Montonero (Marxist-Peronist guerrilla) who supposedly had deserted in order to collaborate with the government, revealed that he arrived in Mexico as member of a military command commissioned to kill exiles.

ETHIOPIAN ENVOY ON INTERNATIONALIZATION OF CONFLICT

FL012209Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANDA Buenos Aires 2109 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Feb (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Ethiopian Ambassador to Mexico Ayele Moltolal has maintained that the Ethiopian-Somali conflict could become internationalized since there are Western powers that want this to happen. He explained that Somalia has illegally occupied Ethiopian territory and, in the face of this situation, his country requested the sale of arms from industrialized Western countries but the request was denied. "In the face of these facts and as a measure of national survival, my country decided to buy arms from the Soviet Union," the diplomat added.

He also explained that the Eritrean separatists are receiving aid from Western countries and that several news media organs have taken on the task of discrediting Ethiopia because it has opted for the socialist path.

SOVIET, CUBAN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR PEACE MEETING

FL312155Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2140 GMT 31 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The USSR delegation that will participate in the Continental Conference for Peace, Sovereignty and Economic Independence arrived in Mexico City today. The Soviet delegation is led by Sergo Mikoyan, chief editor of the magazine LATIN AMERICA; (Konstantin Kurin), scientific collaborator of LATIN AMERICA; and (Vladimir Zverev), official of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace.

The Cuban delegation that will participate in the conference arrived in the Mexican capital last night, PCC Central Committee member Elena Gil heads the delegation which includes (Aleida March), deputy to the National People's Government Assembly; Arturo Espinosa, member of the Secretariat of the World Peace Council; and representatives of various sectors of our country. The conference opens tomorrow.

ECUADOREAN GOVERNMENT MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAPITAL

FL312120Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA BUENOS AIRES 2109 GMT 31 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Ecuadorean Minister of Government Col Bolivar Jarrin has declared upon arrival here that the new constitution approved by a referendum in his country was modeled after the constitutions of Mexico and other Latin American countries. After asserting that the new constitution was approved by 50 percent of the voters he added that the referendum is part of a plan to democratize his country's regime.

CORRECTION TO COMMUNIQUE ON MALMIERCA VISIT

The following is a correction to the item entitled "Reportage on Visit of Foreign Minister Malmierca," subhead "Further Details on Communique," published in the 30 January Latin America DAILY REPORT, M 5:

graf ONE, line one should read...

[Text] Mexican President Jose Lopez-Portillo has Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca at the National Palace in Mexico City. During the meeting they discussed matters of interest concerning bilateral relations between the two countries. The Cuban Foreign Minister expressed gratitude for the invitation tendered by the Mexican Government for him to visit that nation and the interest of the Mexican side in trying to resolve the questions discussed to expand ties between Mexico and Cuba.

During his stay...

BRIEFS

TRADE DELEGATION TO INDIA--On 4 February Mexican National Chamber of Textile Industry President and Treasurer, Rosendo Valles and Jesus Garcia, respectively, will visit India at the special invitation of that country's government. The primary object of the trip is to tour the installations which produce textile machinery and study the industry in that country, which is one of the most important in the world. The Mexican businessmen will be in India until 20 February. [Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 1432 GMT 31 Jan 78 FL]

CHIEF PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATOR ON TREATY AMENDMENTS

PA0201127 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Romulo Escobar Bethancourt said this afternoon that Panama accepts the inclusion of the text of the Memorandum of Understanding issued by the two heads of state in Articles IV and VI of the neutrality pact of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. The advisor to the chief of government, who had returned last night from Mexico, held a work session at the Foreign Ministry with Foreign Affairs Minister Nicolas Gonzalez Revilla and Aristides Royo, who is also a negotiator, in connection with their recent trip.

Escobar said that the detailed breakdown of the Memorandum of Understanding, known in the United States as an amendment, has thus far been nothing but a recommendation from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to the full Senate, which will soon begin discussing the treaties. In explaining the position of the Senate committee, Escobar said that as far as Panama is concerned, this does not involve an amendment but the advisability of adding to it the textual part of each article of the Memorandum of Understanding. Escobar emphasized that the inclusion of the Memorandum of Understanding does not modify or amend the treaties and that this memorandum was agreed to by General Torrijos. It was explained and defined to the Panamanian people before the national plebiscite for approval of the Torrijos-Carter treaties was held.

Regarding the trip to Mexico, Romulo said that its purpose was to report on the visits of the senators to Panama, and talks and concerns of the national government in regard to the treaties. He said that the chief of government has clearly stated that he wishes to keep all the countries which have given their support to Panama informed, because this matter involves the whole continent.

This afternoon's meeting at the Foreign Ministry was held to evaluate the trip and to consider the forthcoming visits to friendly countries and the need to give them the same information. He added that the information commission will release a communique tomorrow to explain Panama's position more broadly.

Escobar said that when he was asked in Mexico about statements attributed to General Torrijos that he will give up power and turn it over to civilians if the treaty is ratified, he answered that the chief of government himself had told several U.S. senators that no ruler is born to perpetuate himself in power and that, consequently, he will know and understand when he has to retire. In connection with the civilian government, Romulo explained that a civilian government has existed in Panama since 1972, when 505 corregimiento representatives were elected and Gen Omar Torrijos was constitutionally elected chief of government.

The possibility of Mexico and Panama exchanging prisoners was raised during the visit to Mexico by Panamanian Foreign Minister Nicolas Gonzalez Revilla in the company of negotiators Romulo Escobar Bethancourt and Aristides Royo. Escobar went to Mexico to brief Mexican President Lopez-Portillo on the negotiations for the new treaties. The matter of prisoner exchange was raised during the meeting between the Panamanian foreign minister and the Mexican chief executive. There is an agreement of this type between Mexico and the United States. It went into effect in December, allowing U.S. citizens arrested in Mexico to serve their sentences in the United States and vice versa.

ENVOY TO NICARAGUA RECALLED FOR CONSULTATIONS

PA020232Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0129 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 2 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The Panamanian Government today urgently recalled its ambassador to Nicaragua for consultations. It denied, however, that it will break relations with that country. Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, advisor to the chief of government and chief of the treaty negotiating team, told ACAN-EFE that the recall of one of its ambassadors is very significant since this is unusual in Panamanian diplomatic practice.

The ambassador's recall was caused by the state of conflict in Nicaragua, where a broad popular movement is demanding President Anastasio Somoza's resignation. Escobar Bethancourt said: "Panama is recalling its ambassador but continues to hold a deep respect for the domestic affairs of other countries." The advisor to the chief of government denied that Panama will initiate a break in relations with Nicaragua, with many other countries subsequently following suit, as various sources have stated recently.

Today, 11 Nicaraguan youths studying in Panama went on a hunger strike at the UN offices in this capital city. The Nicaraguan students support the movement in their country that is calling for President Somoza's resignation. This morning, Panamanian university students held a peaceful demonstration in front of the Nicaraguan Embassy, the walls of which they had covered with slogans against the Somoza regime.

NICARAGUAN STUDENTS OCCUPY UN OFFICES IN PANAMA CITY

Students Demand Somoza Ouster

PA012300Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Today, several Nicaraguan youths who are students in Panama occupied the UN offices in this capital. In a communique, the students expressed their solidarity with the movement currently underway in their country to demand the resignation of President Anastasio Somoza. They also protested the use of tear gas at the University of Managua in the past few days. This morning, several Panamanian University students demonstrated peacefully in front of the Nicaraguan Embassy, the front of which they had covered with anti-Somoza slogans.

Amnesty, Assistance Are Sought

PA020003Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Nicaraguan students in Panama peacefully occupied the United Nations office in this capital city in protest over the Somoza government repression of the Nicaraguan people. The occupation will last 48 hours but will not interfere with the normal activities of the UN officials. The Nicaraguan students are demanding a general amnesty for political prisoners in Nicaragua, the resignation of General Anastasio Somoza and the solution of the Chamorro murder. The demonstrators are in solidarity with the mothers of the peasants who have disappeared in Nicaragua. Earlier, these mothers occupied the United Nations offices in Managua.

The communique of the Nicaraguan students in Panama states that in view of the U.S. military aid to the Somoza army and in view of the more than 500 tear gas bombs--mustard [mostaza] gas type--dropped on the Nicaraguan Autonomous University, they decreed the immediate and peaceful occupation of the UN offices in Panama City and appeal for solidarity to all the nations of the world for the recovery of democracy, freedom and human rights for the Nicaraguan people.

Nicaraguan Student Gives Statement

PA0204l0Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Excerpt] This afternoon a group of 11 Nicaraguan students in Panama occupied the UN offices in this city. We made telephone contact with one of their spokesmen who gave the following explanation for this occupation:

[begin recording--reporter] Dear listeners, we are going to broadcast a telephone conversation with Nicaraguan student Julio Robleto, who, together with other members of the Nicaraguan Students Association in Panama and Panamanian students, is now in the UN offices in our country.

[Robleto] In the first place, the Nicaraguan Students Association in Panama is here protesting the brutal and bloody repression by the Somoza regime in Nicaragua as all the world knows. What finally made us decide to take this patriotic and revolutionary action was the decision of the Somoza gorilla regime to bomb the university with tear gas today. Some students were killed, others injured, and others imprisoned. Our protest was also caused by the special kind of bomb which had been used in the Vietnam mountains and is now used in the Nicaraguan mountains against the Sandinist guerrillas. This type of weapon has been placed in the hands of the Somoza regime by U.S. imperialism which wants to crush all our peoples. We also protest this constant military aid by the U.S. Government which constantly gives military aid and millions of dollars to crush the liberation of the Nicaraguan people.

[Question] Tell me something Robleto, are you going to stay in the UN office permanently? Have you taken it? Or do you simply want to express your feelings?

[Answer] We are going to occupy the UN Embassy here. The committee is now discussing with the other members to see whether to stay more than 48 or 72 hours on a hunger strike.

[Question] How many of you are there?

[Answer] Eleven.

[Question] Are all of you Nicaraguans or are there Panamanians with you?

[Answer] Some of us are Nicaraguans and some are Panamanian students who support us. The National University has also expressed its support for this action taken by the Micaraguan students.

[Question] What have you told the UN representative in Panama?

[Answer] At this moment, he is meeting with a UN specialist. We have not had the opportunity to talk to him directly, but it is a fact that we are here and that is how the situation stands as of now. The statements we will make to him are included in the communique that we issued to the Panamanian people and students as well as to foreigners in this country.

[Question] Are you going to start your hunger strike today?

[Answer] Precisely!

Thank you for this information for Televisora Nacional. We shall remain in contact with you. [end recording]

COMMENTARY DENOUNCES TORRIJOS AS DICTATOR

PA3103S1Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jan 78 PA

[Luis Pimentel commentary]

[Text] Here we are back on the same subject, because frankly I do not know when the Panamanian people's patience will reach its limit. But something is happening in the country. It is extremely risky and I would say that the leadership in our country is bordering on treason regarding national interest. A report from one of our newsmen says that during a news conference given by the visiting senators, they said that Torrijos agrees with the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which made amendments to the treaties. Torrijos is not only saying that his mind is open to changes in the treaties which the Panamanians ratified in a plebiscite, but now he has already accepted the changes. He said this, dear listners, during an impromptu news conference. Notice how he expresses his desire to change the treaties without informing the Panamanians when he says that he is somewhat uncertain regarding the manner in which the Memorandum of Understanding, signed by Carter and Torrijos last October, would be incorporated. He still does not know how he is going to do us in, but he is already looking for a way to make us accept the Memorandum of Understanding which he had already said would not be incorporated into the treaties and which he said he had not signed. He said that he had not even signed an autograph. But now we see that he did sign it, that the Memorandum of Understanding exists. We see that he is no longer open to change but has already accepted changes. Really, I do not know how long the Panamanian people's patience will last. I do not know when our patience will come to its limit. Frankly, we are confronting that which he calls himself--the big dictator.

When he arrived in Chitre--he went to Chitre to show the senators some farms and things --we were precisely in that part of the country looking at some of the beautiful things. We were at the port, the famous port of Azuero. This gentlemen looked at all the international cameramen and said, smiling at a cameraman: They are having a day with the big dictator. He calls himself that which is being made evident by all his actions. The government is being directed by a single man and no decisions are bing made according to previously set definitions. We held the plebiscite so that the people would participate in the canal decisions. If the leaders did not want the people to partic-pate in the canal decisions or negotiations; if they did not want the people or us, the communicators, who are part of the Panamanian people, to participate, then why in heil did they hold a plebiscite? Why do they try to deceive us? So that he can come out now and say that he has made the decisions. So that he can make changes and accept changes. So that he can get us more and more bogged down? So that he can commit still more of our dignity which is already totally shamed?

We can no longer say that we have been humiliated by the United States. We are now being humiliated by our own leaders, who are bogging us down still more and humiliating us still more before the United States. A bunch of senators come down here upon a whim to compel us to accept more changes and more humiliations in these treaties. We no longer know how the treaties will end up.

What we do know is that the senators bring money. What we do know is that they come to pay the debt which this administration has accumulated. That we know. We know that they bring $50 million for the armed institution. That we know. That is why the senators are coming and our leaders are looking for money after having deceived the people, telling them that the economic aspects were secondary to national dignity. I ask you dear listners, where is our national dignity? What I am saying is not being made up by me, Luis Pementel. It came out yesterday in the newspapers. It came out yesterday in the headlines of the government newspaper LA REPUBLICA. The part about the big dictator is there. Look it up in the newspaper and read it on page 11. He is emphasizing that in Panama there is what has been called an Indian summer. As soon as the treaty is ratified, a treaty manipulated by our leaders without the people's participation--because they are already looking for a way to incorporate the Memorandum of Understanding into the treaty without the people's participation--when this instrument created by the minds and the impatience of our leadership is ratified, everything will then come to an end. In my opinion we will have an ironbound dictatorship. There will be no freedoms. Once the economic problem is solved why should they allow anyone to say anything on the matter? He has already said that the coming Corregimiento Representative Assembly will be identical to the present one and the political parties will be liquidated. Last Thursday or Friday he told the political parties to forget about it and told the present representatives to run for election because the popular power so on and so forth. There will be no chance for a democratic opening which will allow the elimination of the decree which erased political parties from our national panorama, so what is ahead of us is a black future for our country, a really black future. I am now going to read an article sent by professor and attorney Garcia Almengor in which he explains certain aspects of the constituent assembly, about which much has been said; that is the creation of a constituent assembly which will allow the national constitution to be reconstructed and the political parties to be reincorporated into the political panorama.

We shall now proceed to define the general's statement about what he is going to do; that is, with a completely autocratic attitude, without consulting the people, he has already accepted changes to the treaties. Dear listeners, you must be aware that the treaties disregard the popular will expressed in the plebiscite. The treaties which you approved are now to be changed because General Torrijos, the country's main leader, has accepted changes which neither you nor I, dear listners, know the extent to which they will go. So, the popular will is disregarded and the people are deceived once again, according to statements by General Torrijos. Let us now read the article written by Garcia Almengor entitled "The Constituent Assembly Is Not A Coup d'Etat:"

A high-ranking official of the Panamanian regime is opposed to the calling and holding of a national constituent assembly to create a political and juridical order because, in his opinion, it is tantamount to a coup d'etat. We do not share this opinion because without a coup it is perfectly possible to change the existing political structures by means of a constituent assembly in such a way as to allow all the people to participate in the electoral process as candidates to any government post and to allow their participation in public life with the opportunity to rule the country by democratic means. Peru has accepted the calling of a national constituent assembly to change the political structures and has decided to bring about the changes by democratic means without resorting to a coup d'etat as has been said here.

They simply called for popular elections in order to determine the people's real opinion regarding the advisability of continuing the existing political order. The Colombian executive has called for a constituent assembly and there has been no coup d'etat. The Bolivian and Ecuadorean governments are democratizing their political structures without coups d'etat.

Experts in political science and juridical language agree that a coup d'etat means the violent usurpation of the public powers by the executive, the control by the executive of the legislative function and the [word indistinct] of the judicial power. This objectionable situation is what a national constituent assembly tries to avoid. It uses legal means precisely to democratize the country in a short time and to attain the separation of the powers of state, the alternation of power and the creation of a legislative power which really dictates laws and passes the budget of the executive. It creates an independent judicial system, an executive which abides by the legal norms and an austere guardian of public funds. This is not obtained by the typical violence of the coup d'etat, but through the vote of the people who should elect a constituent assembly with the participation of authentic political parties. Coups d'etat are produced as a violent action by one of the public powers against the others and not by the actions of individuals.

The constituent assembly we propose be called to change the political structures comes from the people's will which by conviction, foresight and pressure is demanding a constitutionalized democracy in the immediate future brought about by peaceful means. In Panama, the constituent assembly is based on serious historic needs and on political, social and economic demands which cannot be ignored. The country is living in a tragic situation which, therefore, demands political changes during the present year, 1978. Because of the above-mentioned reasons, we reject the statements that a national constituent assembly implies a coup d'etat. [signed] Garcia Almengor

PANAMA CITY CRITICA OPPOSES NEW PLEBISCITE

PA011336Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 31 Jan 78 p-4 PA

[Editorial: "Always With the People's Will"]

[Text] According to the latest information on the Senate's deliberations over the new Panama Canal treaties, the Foreign Relations Committee has agreed to send the treaties to the Senate next week with a recommendation for approval. However, attached will be a request that the Senate incorporate into the treaties the as yet unsigned agreement which was reached by President Carter and the Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos and appeared in the form of a verbal Memorandum of Understanding regarding two points that were not originally included in the treaties signed by Carter and Torrijos.

Ten Democratic and three Republican senators visited Panama for 3 days during which time they were given ample opportunity to learn about the country's social, economic and political conditions. Last Saturday they went to Los Santos to attend the inauguration of a children's orientation center built by the community and government at a cost of 35,000 balboas. Later they went to General Torrijos' summer house in Farallon, where they thoroughly discussed the treaties' basic points.

General Torrijos told the senators that he is concerned that the ratification of the treaties with amendments could compel the Panamanian Government to hold a second plebiscite which would be too costly and risky.

We are completely in agreement with the chief of government in this respect. Our country's constitution mandates a plebiscite to approve or reject the canal treaties, its neutrality and defense. Under these conditions it is impossible to avoid a national plebiscite if the amendments introduced by the U.S. Senate refer to basic matters and not simply to interpretative aspects that could be defined by a simple exchange of notes. The United States confronts the consensus of Latin America and the Third World. The prestige of its president and his advisers is at stake. For Panama the matter, in spite of its seriousness, does not have the same meaning as it does for the United States. Our country has the support and respect of the world and, whatever the decision, we will not be discouraged. On the contrary, we must retain our pride, especially when it is founded on a solid base. We are not in favor of a new plebiscite. The will of the people is a demonstration of sovereignty and one cannot toy with this sentiment at the whim of imperialism.

NATIONAL REVOLUTION COMMITTEE TO BE ESTABLISHED

PA011610Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 1 Feb 78 p 8-a PA

[Text] Santiago, Panama, 31 Jan--An important meeting was held at the union house in Veraguas on Sunday. It was organized by the Provincial Committee in Defense of Political Rights and the Current Revolutionary Process. More than 400 persons, including delegations from all the provinces, attended the meeting. The general view at the meeting was that all good Panamanians must unite to defend the revolutionary process in view of the attack by the traditional political parties which seek to return to power and of the systematic blackmail by certain U.S. senators opposed to the ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. After a lengthy debate, the participants in the meeting agreed that a National Committee of the Movement for Defense and Deepening of the Revolutionary Process should definitely be established. It should be made up of five delegates from each province. It was also decided that that committee will be established at the next meeting in Cocle Province on 19 February.

The meeting issued a patriotic appeal to the active forces of the current government to close ranks around General Torrijos and in defense of our full sovereignty over the Canal Zone precisely at the time when the Senate is to debate the treaties between Panama and the United States. All of Latin America and several powerful nations of Europe and the Middle East are waiting for the final results of that debate.

VISITING FINNISH DELEGATION VISITS PORT

PA311210Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 31 Jan 78 PA

[Text] A Finnish delegation currently visiting Panama today met at the presidency with Demetrio Basilio Lakas and several cabinet members to discuss several aspects of the various projects that the national government is carrying out. Mr (Kauko Kasila), president of (Uto Sampu), and the other Finnish visitors today visited several places, among them the Balboa Pier, where the dry dock is located, and other port installation. On Wednesday, the group will meet with Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos on Contadora Island and on Thursday and Friday it will visit the Cerro Colorado Copper Project and the Port of Vacamonte. The Finnish delegation's visit is in response to an invitation extended by General Torrijos to the Finnish Government during his European tour. The tour included Finland, a country which is very advanced in the area of shipbuilding and which has vast experience in the construction of piers.

BELIZE

PREMIER PRICE RETURNS 'UNHERALDED AND UNANNOUNCED'

FL012015Y Belize City THE REPORTER in English 29 Jan 78 pp 1, 6 FL

[Text] Fri. Jan. 27--Premier George Price arrived back in Belize Friday morning unheralded and unannounced.

Unlike his return from New York in November which was billed as a triumphant entry following the United Nations vote in favour of Belize, Price's return today created not a ripple.

He has quietly withdrawn to his retreat in Belmopan where he expects to call a special meeting of his cabinet later today.

A PUP public meeting which had been set for tonight has been postponed, and it is not known whether the premier plans to make a statement to the country later today or tomorrow.

The UDP opposition is going ahead however with its plans for a series of country-wide demonstrations, starting with the first one this evening at 5. The demonstrators will make the point that the country has lost confidence in the leadership of the premier George Price.

1,000 Square Miles

Price said the area involves about a thousand square miles of mainland and offshore territory in the south, but he did not specify how much land and how much of continental shelf he was talking about. From the nature of the question put to him it would appear that more than half of this is sea and continental shelf.

The premier has already agreed to give up a "slice of continental shelf" of unspecified size. At the time he was at pains to explain that "sea is not land". But in London he seems to have had second thoughts, adding the area under consideration was larger than many of the now independent Caribbean islands.

Apart from the continental shelf which he has already conceded however, Mr Price was resolute in refusing to consider giving up any mainland territory.

"Not one square centimeter" was his answer in 1960 when Guatemala was prepared to take much less than they appear willing to take today, now that they have discovered oil near Rubelsalto in the Peten, and this has been his public stance ever since.

In London Mr Price was just as emphatic. He demanded and got a British pledge that the people of Belize are to be consulted before any deal is made, presumably through a referendum, and in a melo-dramatic statement to the British press, announced that he would be going home "to join the militants".

Disagreement

Earlier, in the House of Commons Dr David Owens, the British foreign secretary, reported on the outcome of the talks. There had been disagreement, he said, over boundary adjustments which had been mooted in exploratory talks with the Guatemalans. But, he pledged, there would be no settlement with the Guatemalans "without the agreement of the people of Belize".

Later the Manchester GUARDIAN, the newspaper which cracked the secrecy barrier surrounding the talks earlier this week, said it would not take the foreign secretary to task for flirting with the Guatemalans after his pledge to the Commons.

Premier Price's promise to come home and join the militants is seen here as more than idle threat. But apart from Philip Goldson and the U.D.P., it is difficult to make out any militants who are not already in the Price camp. The statement is being interpreted therefore to mean that prim [as published] will use the referendum to campaign against any surrender of land to the Guatemalans.

Referendum

Price has indeed come a long way since Sunday, July 10, 1977. On that day some two thousand citizens defied the governor, the police and the paramilitary to stage a massive demonstration in favour of a referendum to determine a timetable for independence. Price's answer then, cold and very superior, was that Belize did not need a referendum on independence and that there would be none.

But in London on Thursday Price not only advocated referendum, he demanded one, and the British concurred.

But a subtle change has come over the British who for years have been taking Price to their bosom. This was seen when Dr.David Owen reported back to Parliament on the progress of the talks. By deftly amending the well known cliche about getting the consent of the 'government and people of Belize'.

Nasty Shock

It was the most significant thing to come out of the London talks because referendum has now become the court of last appeal.

If the premier is counting on a referendum to vindicate his position, clearly the British are expecting referendum to provide a break-through in the impasse which reaches way back to 1948 when the HMS Sheffield had to be sent down to cool off Guatemalan fervour over Belize. Price of course is confident that he can persuade the country to turn down a request for land cession. But this depends on how much land is at stake.

If the land swap involves a nominal area and if there are adequate economic compensations, Mr. Price and many others who pride themselves on their knowledge of what the people of Belize want, might get a nasty shock when the referendum results are known.

New Ballgame

One thing is clear. Premier Price has lost the diplomatic initiative begun so ambitiously at the United Nations through 'internationalization' of the Belize question. And the people of Belize are in a worse position today than when he started out on his quest for the holy grail of independence three years ago since the British, who are the actual defenders of Belize, appear to be convinced that a land settlement is the only way out.

There is one way for prim to regain his initiatives. That is for him to resign immediately and call new elections. Guatemala is having new elections next month, and Britain may be plunged in elections of her own at any minute. Belize would be well advised to go into elections in the next month or two to emerge with a brand new ballgame.

Reactions to 'Collapse' of Talks

FL012040Y Belize City THE REPORTER in English 29 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The collapse of the London talks between the British Government and a delegation from this country headed by Premier George Price has hit Belize like a thunderbolt.

Citizens were profoundly shocked at reports that Guatemala was to get a piece of the south and Mexico a bigger piece in the north. They were mollified by the assurances of the British prime minister, Mr. Callaghan, and his foreign secretary, Dr. Owen, in the House of Commons.

But alarm set in once more when it was learned that the talks had definitely broken down, that the premier would be returning home without reaching an agreement with the British and that the British were planning to meet the Guatemalans soon (possibly in February) in Washington.

The opposition UDP reacted strongly by announcing a series of demonstrations to add emphasis to its demand that the premier should resign at once in view of the broken down talks and make way for new negotiating efforts to find a formula for further talks.

Originally the opposition's main thrust was aimed at obtaining a referendum, something the premier had strenuously opposed. But in London both the Belize and the British governments conceded that a referendum, after all, was an eminently sensible idea.

Referendum, when it does come, will not in all likelihood be on the question of independence, but on whether or not Belize should cede territory to the Guatemalans in order to get rid of the Guatemalan claim.

Reports from Washington say British and Guatemalan negotiators seeking to end the 156-year old dispute had reached the point of a secret agreement which involves redrawing the map so that the area south of the Moho River would become Guatemalan territory--perhaps 5 per-cent of Belize's land area.

At one point the Guatemalans were insisting that they be given all the land south of Monkey River, but that would have represented more than 15 per-cent of the Belize land area and has been discarded.

"The area in question" reports the Washington STAR, "is thinly populated and consists primarily of tidal swamps and rain forest. If this land is handed over to Guatemala it would give that nation control of both flanks of the Bay of Amatique and a broader access to the Atlantic Ocean than the narrow corridor it now possesses between Puerto Barrios and the area just north of Livingston. But the major part would be the concession to Guatemala's national pride. The economic gain for Guatemala would be miniscule."

Premier Price's break with Britain occurred over his absolute refusal to even consider a boundary adjustment. Rather than discuss such a possibility he preferred to end the talks.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES TALKS WITH TERENCE TODMAN

PA011549Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 29 Jan 78 p 2-A PA

[Excerpt] Gonzalo Facio, Costa Rican foreign affairs minister, yesterday asked the United States to treat us in the same way that it does other developing countries in the area of soft loans. "I found Mr Todman very receptive, and I sincerely feel that the meeting was very fruitful," he told LA NACION.

Terence Todman, assistant U.S. secretary of state for inter-American affairs, arrived the day before yesterday at 1745 according to an overall schedule of visits to Central American nations. He met with heads of state, cabinet ministers and other officials of those countries, except Nicaragua. His mission is to further consolidate the ties of friendship and the relations between the United States and Latin America

Credits

Facio said yesterday that he talked for over 90 minutes with Todman, to whom he expressed his government's concern that Costa Rica has been declared a more developed country, a decision that is harmful to the country insofar as the U.S. credit program is concerned. Preferential treatment is granted to countries described as "developing or less developed countries."

He cited the cases of El Salvador and Guatemala, to which the United States has granted loans amounting to 60 percent of the total value of hydroelectric projects, at a low interest rate and with easy payment terms. "In turn," Facio complained, "totally unequal treatment was given to us in connection with our Corobici project, which is vital for the nation's economy."

Facio noted that the fact that we do not have an army and have a high per capita income was the cause of "our having been given this unequal treatment." He added that not having an army and having a high per capita income are the result of the country's efforts and democratic consolidation, and this situation, "in my opinion, should be grounds to grant us preferential treatment in view of the profound repercussions that flow from a system based on freedom, democracy and faithful adherence to the laws that guarantee this progressive system."

Other Problems

Costa Rica reemphasized to the U.S. official the need for better treatment regarding the policy on sugar, meat, coffee and other basic products on which our economy is based. Costa Rica referred to the need to "maintain just, equitable and flexible relations in regard to the meat and sugar quotas as well as coffee prices."

Latin America

Other topics discussed by Facio and Todman were the problem of selecting the site for the forthcoming meeting of the OAS, the dispute between Chile and Argentina, as well as that involving Guatemala, Great Britain and Belize. They also analyzed the problems of Trinidad, whose relations with Jamaica are strained; the need for peace between Honduras and El Salvador; the Panama Canal treaties; oil and other topics, including Venezuela's case. "In a nutshell, it was a positive and pleasant meeting, which even turned to aspects of pure friendship. Todman knows that he has true friends here. We view him in those same terms," Facio said.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON CRASH OF SOVIET SATELLITE

PA011716Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 30 Jan 78 p 14 A PA

[Editorial: "Playing With Fire"]

[Text] The accidental crash in northwestern Canada of a Soviet Cosmos satellite loaded with 50 kg of uranium and a nuclear generator, shows to what extent the big powers such as the USSR are playing with fire--a fact that may have catastrophic consequences for mankind.

This accident makes us take note of the secret and dangerous game that the Soviet Union in particular--although not exclusively--is playing with Cosmos satellites. After disguising the true nature of their mission for 16 years, many of those satellites are now known to have been carrying out "espionage" work.

Since 1962, many people have wondered about the purpose of these Soviet satellites. The large number of these satellites put in orbit since then (954 in all) exceeded all space records: some 60 per year and more than 1 per week on an average, although the tiny satellites were often launched in groups.

One can now see why in the case of the Cosmos satellites, the USSR maintained its usual reserve in matters of space launchings except in those cases were the launchings were successful and sensational. Until Tuesday, 24 January 1978, the Soviet Union succeeded in making others believe that these multiple launchings had some scientific or research purpose. But it now has become evident that the "research" being carried out was of a military and strategic type. In truth, the Cosmos satellites carry death.

It has been unpleasantly confirmed that aside from its undeniable peaceful accomplishments, space technology, particularly that of the USSR, has been prostituted and given roles and objectives that contradict mankind's hopes in connection with these conquests and with the more or less explicit agreements that the USSR itself has signed to preclude the use of outer space for warlike or military purposes.

The ominous prospect offered mankind with examples such as this one is that of a not too hypothetical "star war"--not on film, but real and possibly leading to unimaginable degrees of extermination. This first real instance of appreciable magnitude of an atomic threat from outer space automatically deprives those many works of literature designed to heighten imagination of their strictly science-fiction quality.

All of a sudden, the world has become painfully aware of the danger posed by certain military equipment that have been rotating around the earth while its inhabitants slept confidently.

Never mind if there are instruments available to neutralize, if necessary, the deadly power of those orbital bombs. The Sword of the Damocles has been hung over the heads of mankind. The best thing would be to remove it rather than to just keep it from falling.

EL SALVADOR

SECURITY POLICE BREAK UP SUGAR WORKERS' STRIKE

PA011524Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1220 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Security corps agents broke up a strike by workers of the (Izalco) sugarmill who are demanding wage raises, reinstatement of dismissed workers, and respect of workers collective contracts and labor laws.

The action by the police was taken in accordance with the recently approved law on the defense of public order. It has been learned that the strikers numbered 1,500.

It was also learned that other businesses support the foiled sugar workers' strike.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE ON INTENSIFYING ANTICRIME EFFORT

PA011518Y Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] The Guatemalan Government through the Public Relations Secretariat of the presidency yesterday issued a lengthy press communique discussing the increase of violence in the country during the past few months. Part of the communique states:

During its 3.5 years in office, the government of General Laugerud has carried out a policy of conciliation and work on behalf of the majority of the country's population. At all times it has permitted the free functioning of all political groups without favoring any specific group or groups nor [word indistinct] their particular political, social or economic beliefs.

At no time during its administration has General Laugerud's government restricted constitutional guarantees. Instead, it has been concerned about maintaining them so that each citizen can freely and properly exercise them within the law. It has been always respectful (?of the law) and has never felt superior to it.

The communique adds: However, recently there has been an increase of violent actions by groups which act outside the law [words indistinct] the rights of the Guatemalans with actions which include kidnaping, extortion, torture and assassination.

The Guatemalan people can be sure that their government is able and determined to act with all necessary energy and [word indistinct] to guarantee the security, dignity, property and life of the Guatemalans.

As a government which respects the law, it has ordered the intensification of all legal actions to combat common and political violence.

In concluding, the communique issues an appeal to the Guatemalan people to cooperate so that their government will be able to guarantee peace, independence, political rights and the right to self-determination as a free nation.

NICARAGUA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GENERAL STRIKE OVER CHAMORRO'S DEATH

Private Sector To Continue Strike

PA010223Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0153 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 31 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan private sector decided tonight to "remain firm" regarding the stoppage of the country's main productive activities, even though it has entered its ninth day.

A total of 16 associations which comprise this country's private enterprise bodies held a meeting again today and decided to continue the general strike, "faithfully abiding by the principles of civic responsibility and peace."

Industrialists, merchants, contractors, customs brokers, cotton growers, automobile dealers and hardware store owners participated in the meeting, which ended early this evening. Engineers, coffee growers, advertisers, cattlemen, medical doctors and oil distributors were also represented.

The businessmen said that "in face of this attitude of civic responsibility and peace, the government has resorted to various forms of repression, coercion, threats and even violence and abuses."

The businessmen agreed to reiterate their demands for justice and freedom "which are supported by the Nicaraguan people." The 16 private associations said that "for this reason we reiterate with full conviction that the force of repression will not bend the will of Nicaraguans."

The meeting of businessmen took place at the offices of the Nicaraguan Development Institute and, as usual, members of the various associations were present in addition to their leaders, thus filling the offices to capacity.

The strike, which began on 23 January, is also supported by all opposition political groups, university students and a large sector of the clergy, as well as by some groups of public employees.

Somoza Denies Unrest

PA011302Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0427 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (LATIN)--President Anastasio Somoza Debayle has told a Mexican television special correspondent that "nothing is happening in Nicaragua; there is no problem and that "there is no state of emergency" in that Central American country.

The Nicaraguan president made these statements to Guillermo Jordan, representative of Mexico's Channel 13, who said that he interviewed Somoza in "the Bunker," "the fortress where he has taken shelter" in Managua.

Jordan said that Somoza "lost his calm voice and his composure when I spoke of the state of emergency. 'There is no state of emergency,'" he said.

"Mr President," I said, "in the name of that emergency the National Guard has closed four radio stations and banned news broadcasts," the Mexican newsman reported from Managua.

The newsman added: "The representative of the third generation of Somozas in power told me that I had been misinformed, that the radio stations had been closed because they failed to pay their electricity bills."

"And the television stations?" "I know nothing about that. Nicaragua is calm, (Somoza) reiterated," Jordan added.

Fuel Supplies Dwindling

PA011449 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Telephone report by Ricardo Gonzalez from Managua, Nicaragua--live]

[Text] Radio newsmen decided yesterday to air newscasts from various churches, including (Oten Tres), Barrio la California and Colonia 14 de Septiembre.

Meanwhile, at Las Mercedes airport, it was learned yesterday that the Medellin Aeronautics Association, SAM, had suspended flights to this country. It was announced that the airport would be without fuel today, while cars are lined up at gas stations. Nevertheless, Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza said this was a resistance struggle and that he had sufficient means to overcome the situation, and that he had fuel for 1 month.

The National University of Managua [UNAM] continues to be occupied by students while the National Guard maintains strict vigilance there.

The situation is the same in Managua, where national guardsmen patroled the streets throughout the night while helicopters flew overhead.

This is the report which we can give you. Also, we noted the visit by Terence Todman, who met with the ambassador in a sudden and hurried fashion and left later for El Salvador.

We have entered the 10th day of the strike by the main business establishments in this city, where yesterday, no less than 80 percent of businesses were paralyzed. It is presumed that there will be no fuel today. At this moment, there are long lines of vehicles at gas stations. Some lines extend as far as 200 meters.

People have been commenting on the nonparticipation of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. However, there were rumors that the FSLN has issued warnings.

Chamber President Denies Statements

PA011856Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1620 GMT 1 Jan 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Cornelio Hueck, president of the Chamber of Deputies of Nicaragua, has denied that he made the statements attributed to him by a newspaper published here. The newspaper said Hueck stated that now is the right time for the opposition to overthrow Gen Anastasio Somoza.

In a message to ACAN-EFE in San Jose, the well-known Nicaraguan politician reaffirmed his affiliation with the Nationalist Liberal Party, of which he was secretary general not long ago. Hueck, who claims his party is the largest in Nicaragua, emphatically denied the statements that were attributed to him by the newspaper LA NACION. Hueck said that as the president of the Chamber of Deputies, he still is a member of the Nicaraguan Government and the Nationalist Party and he has shown his loyalty "beyond question and which no crisis can alter."

More Clashes in Matagalpa

PA011703Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1614 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Feb (AFP)--The City of Matagalpa, 80 kms north of Managua, was today again the scene of armed clashes between strikers demanding the resignation of President Anastasio Somoza and army contingents.

Last night, at least 1 person was killed and 20 wounded seriously in generalized confrontations between demonstrators and the police, it was reported here today.

The person killed last night was Margarita Gonzalez, widow of Carlos Fonseca Amador, the late leader of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) and aunt by marriage of National Guard Lieutenant Jose Antonio Robleto Siles, who is in political refuge in San Jose.

Yesterday Robleto Siles asked his former comrades in arms of the National Guard to rebel against President Somoza.

The Matagalpa Red Cross has not said how many persons were hurt last night in Matagalpa. Violence spread after the first clashes between demonstrators and the guard left a toll of 1 young man dead and about 12 persons wounded. In the meantime, Managua on the ninth day of the strike remained desolate.

Two insurance companies, La Protectora and Inmobiliaria de Seguros, which were operating only on a halftime schedule, today joined the total strike.

Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, the National Guard's public relations chief, last night denied that the garrison in Rio Blanco, in the mountains 130 km northwest of Matagalpa, had been seized. But the administrator of a small drugstore in Rio Blanco told newsmen from Matagalpa that FSLN men--whom he said seized the garrison--took all the medicine he had in his store after overcoming the military force.

Esso Forced To Resume Operations

PA02CO[illegible] Paris AFT in Spanish 2322 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] [illegible]ua, 1 Feb (AFP)--Today, the National Guard intervened at the Esso Standard Oil refinery and forced the personnel to resume operations. This occured within the context of the serious antigovernment situation in the country.

In the meantime, the government stated that there would be enough fuel to prevent the paralyzation of Nicaragua. The San Antonio sugar mill, the largest in the country, resumed operations yesterday under military control.

Today, approximately 150 employees of the National Bank of Nicaragua, which is owned by the state, joined the strike following the lead taken by their colleagues from the Central Bank. National Guard units attacked the new strikers when they gathered outside the National Bank to incite their fellow employees to stop work.

A group of newsmen who were broadcasting information about the situation in the country over the radio from Cristo del Rosario church were removed from the religious center by the army. In six other churches, however, radio broadcasting continued without incidents. Radio newsmen had decided on this type of broadcasting in order to avoid censorship at their usual place of work.

It was reported today that six persons--all from Matagalpa--have died as a result of the disturbances. Four of the demonstrators wounded in yesterday's clash with army troops have died. It is believed that more than 150 persons have been arrested throughout Nicaragua. However, Cesar Perez Arevalo, a leader of the Democratic Liberation Union [UDEL] who had been arrested on Saturday, was released today.

The government is broadcasting lengthy lists of business and industries that have renewed their operations. In the medical sector, the Federation of Health Workers today asked its members who work in hospitals to leave their jobs.

A correspondent for the Managua daily LA PRENSA has reported from the northern city of Voaca that in recent days the Sandinist National Liberation Front attacked the National Guard in the town of Rio Blanco. The reporter, Rosario Mora, said that yesterday several army helicopters were bringing the wounded to the Voaca hospital.

In Managua, the rector of the university, Mariano Piallos, protested against the National Guard for having shot in the air and thrown tear gas at several hundred students who had gathered on the university campus.

Serious Disorders Continue

PA020128Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Matagalpa, Nicaragua, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--Five civilians and 1 soldier have been killed, 16 persons have been injured and more than 30 persons have been detained so far in the clashes that have occurred in this northern Nicaraguan city between opposition demonstrators and various groups of soldiers.

The antigovernment demonstrations in support of the national strike decreed 10 days ago by the country's private sector have continued in this town for the third consecutive day despite harsh military repression. The popular demonstrations are being staged in the neighborhoods of Progreso, Laborio, Malaguina, Palo Alto and La Virgen. These areas are being continuously patrolled by three army helicopters. The demonstrations have grown in the areas of Barrio Laborio and near the Matagalpa Fire Department, where citizen Cristobal Treminio was reportedly shot and wounded today.

The people have raised barricades of tires, burned pieces of wood and parked their vehicles at street intersections to keep the National Guard troops from coming close. The barricades are being removed by personnel from the roads department, but others are soon erected in other areas of the city. In certain areas, people have returned the soldiers' fire and the archives of Matagalpa's Police Department have been reportedly seized, looted and burned.

Peasants of La Fundadora Ranch, owned by the Somoza family, were taken today to Matagalpa and armed as reinforcements for the already numerous military troops stationed in this area.

According to a last-minute report, four foreign newsmen--two unidentified Mexicans and two Americans--who arrived today to cover Nicaragua's most serious center of turmoil, have been detained at the local command.

National Guard Beats Newsmen

PA020426Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0046 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Feb (AFP)--Several newsmen, including Francisco Salinas Rios, special correspondent of the Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR, were beaten and arrested by the National Guard while covering the disturbances in Matagalpa, it was learned today.

Salinas was injured in the mouth, leg and side by the blows he received and had to be treated by military doctors.

Nicaraguan Ernesto Aburto of the newspaper LA PRENSA, and Guatemalans Rodolfo Garcia Avendano and Cristobal de Jesus Colon Sierra were also arrested with Salinas. All of them were held for several hours and questioned at the garrison in Matagalpa but were released afterwards on orders from Gregrorio Pichardo, the garrison commander.

The three newsmen were followed by a helicopter and a military jeep to the outskirts of the city, which has been in turmoil during the last few days.

It was also learned that Abelardo Sanchez, another correspondent of LA PRENSA, was arrested and is still being held in Ocotal. A photographer of the same newspaper was also beaten today in Managua's outskirts.

Zelaya Communique on Situation

PA020014Y Bluefields Radio Zelaya in Spanish 2114 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Communique issued by the Zelaya departmental authorities]

[Text] We, the undersigned, in our role as principal authorities in Zelaya Department, are in the position to announce to the citizens of this coastal area that the abnormal situation created in Managua and other cities in recent days is being favorably resolved and that everything is now returning to normal in an orderly and legal fashion.

We urge all citizens to preserve the climate of peace maintained so far, which has characterized the people of the coast. This type of behavior will allow us to continue fulfilling our daily tasks for the benefit and welfare of our community.

At no time should we be alarmed by false news aimed at [words indistinct], which is being disseminated by the enemies of the Liberal regime. We ask the city's businesses to cooperate in not raising the price of staples, as this is forbidden by law.

Let us be confident that the entire country will soon enjoy a climate of peace that will enable it to continue developing normally. Our government is working hard toward this end.

Sincerely: [signed] Luzcando (Benoit), departmental political chief; (Joao) Pedro J. Bustamante, municipal mayor; Dr Carlos Barreto C., magistrate; Dr Manuel Martinez Sevilla, civil judge; Dr Francisco Gutierrez Saa, assistant director, health center; Col Alfredo Juarez (Cespedes), departmental commander; Dr Oscar Mayorga S., director, health center; Dr Santiago Lopez G., magistrate; Dr Armando Ayala Amador, president, CLN's Local Committee [not further identified]; Charles Mitchell Valentine, municipal treasurer.

Ministers Asked To Resign

PA020353Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0150 GMT 2 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The public employees who have joined the strike to demand justice and freedom have asked Klaus Sengelmann, minister of agriculture and livestock, and Roger Blandon, [as received] minister of economy, industry and commerce, to resign. They have also asked Ricardo Parrales, president of the National Housing Bank and a former ambassador to London, to resign.

As of tonight, the striking public employees had collected some 300 signatures to support the request for the resignation of ministers Sengelmann and Blandon and of Parrales.

The strikers, who work for the Central Bank, the National Bank of Nicaragua and the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, feel that the above officials should resign in support of Nicaragua's private sector, which is backing a strike now in its 10th day.

The news about the request for the officials' resignations was learned tonight at the offices of the Nicaraguan Development Institute (INDE), where the leaders of the private sector have been holding a meeting to draft a new statement regarding the situation prevailing in the country.

Regarding this, it has been announced that the country's private sector will order a continuation of the strike but that no pressure will be exerted on any businessman or industrialist to force him to close his business, the idea being that the strike is a "civic, peaceful and spontaneous movement in search of a democratic solution to the national problems."

While the private sectors' leaders were meeting, a delegation of Agriculture and Livestock Ministry employees arrived at INDE offices. The delegation immediately entered the conference room and met with the private sector's leaders to inform them that the employees of four important departments had agreed to join the strike.

The employees of the National Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Technology and the Cadastre and Natural Resources Departments are among those who joined the strike. It has been estimated that some 350 employees from the Agriculture Ministry have actually joined the movement. The delegation of strikers told the private sector representatives that they will continue to support the strike and that they will try to convince more public employees to join.

WOMEN CRITICIZE PRESIDENT CARTER FOR ARMING DICTATORS

PA020308Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2221 GMT 1 Feb 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 1 Feb (LATIN)--Approximately 100 women have sent a letter to U.S. President Jimmy Carter asking him to explain "before the world how he reconciles his policy of respect for human rights with that of arming dictators who attack defenseless women." A copy of the letter was published here today.

The letter to Carter, dated yesterday, adds that "we strongly protest your ambiguous stand of proclaiming your policy of respect for human rights before the world on one hand, and arming dictator Anastasio Somoza on the other. Yesterday, this same Somoza sent the National Guard under the command of his own son, Maj Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, to brutally attack us with those arms."

The letter from the opposition women, copies of which was sent to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, Amnesty International, U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy and U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Mauricio Solaun, says: "In order to be consistent with your vaunted support and devotion to human rights, you must explain to the world how you reconcile this with your attitude of arming dictators who attack defenseless women."

Included among the signers of the letter are at least five relatives of assassinated opposition journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, whose death has unleashed the greatest wave of opposition to the government.

RAUL CASTRO MEETS WITH LEONID BREZHNEV IN MOSCOW

FL011417Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1340 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The TASS agency has reported that Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today received Raul Castro, PCC Politburo member and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. Attending the meeting with the first vice president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers was Dimitriy Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR defense minister.

During the talks, which took place in an atmosphere of cordial friendship and mutual understanding, they exchanged opinions on further strengthening and development of Soviet-Cuban relations. Finally, the TASS agency dispatch reports that at the meeting, Leonid Brezhnev and Raul Castro also discussed some questions relating to international affairs of interest to both countries.

HART RETURNS TO MOSCOW AFTER 3 DAYS IN UZBEKISTAN

FL011339Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Armando Hart Davalos, PCC Central Committee Politburo member and culture minister, today has returned to Moscow following a 3-day stay in the Uzbek SSR. At the invitation of the USSR Culture Ministry, Hart arrived in the Soviet capital on 25 January heading a delegation.

Meets With Lapin

FL012129Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Excerpts] Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of culture, has met in Moscow with Sergey Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Commitee for Television and Broadcasting.

During the meeting with Lapin, the Cuban minister emphasized the importance of radio and television for the dissemination of culture. In this regard, Hart was especially interested in the organization of programs in the USSR, their characteristics in both radio and television, and the role played by the various cultural manifestations. He also asked about showing films on television, about film production and about dubbing foreign films.

In his meeting with Sergey Lapin, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Broadcasting, Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart referred to the differences between the so-called classical music and light or popular music--as they are called in our country. Hart emphasized that in his judgment, the difference lies in the greater or lesser extent of refinement, because certain cultural manifestations are always present in both types.

Hart said that there is considerable potential in Cuba for producing musical programs that reflect the African and Arab influences, which were introduced in our island during the Spanish colonization, as well as the French influences to some extent.

As far as the function of artistic shows is concerned, Minister Hart explained that these should offer the people recreation as well as cultural enjoyment.

In the meeting, the top official of Soviet radio and television, Sergey Lapin, emphasized the current development and prospects in this sector in his country. Lapin asserted that Cuba can always count on Soviet assistance in the communications media. He also reported that the Soviet Union would send televison installations and other equipment to Cuba that would be used to transmit, via satellite, the activities of the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students to European countries. The festival will be held in Havana this summer. Hart and the rest of the Cuban delegation also met with officials of the USSR Union of Writers. Later, the Cuban delegation went to Leningrad, cradle of the October Socialist Revolution.

CASTRO THANKS BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN FOR ANNIVERSARY MESSAGE

FL011953Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1924 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Aleksey Kosygin have received a message from PCC First Secretary Fidel Castro. The message from the president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers thanks the Soviet leaders for the fraternal message of congratulations on the 19th anniversary of the Cuban revolution.

CARTER WILL SELL MOROCCO PLANES TO FIGHT POLISARIO FPONT

FL011551Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] North American President James Carter has told Congress that the United States will sell airplanes and helicopters to Morocco to be used against the POLISARIO Front forces, which are fighting for the liberation of western Sahara. An article that has appeared in the New York TIMES under the headline "A Move With Political Implications in the Middle East and Africa" states that Carter also proposes to revise a secret agreement on military aid to Morocco, signed in 1960, so that that country can use the new arms in western Sahara. Under the pact now in force between the United States and Morocco, the Rabat government is forbidden to use U.S. arms outside its borders.

ANGOLAN COMMUNIQUE NOTES ZAIRIAN, SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION

FL011703Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] In Luanda, the Angolan Defense Ministry has stated that Zaire and South Africa are continuing to train and arm counterrevolutionary groups that are carrying out aggressions against Angola. An official communique states that on 12 January, groups based in Zaire burned the village of (Nilabutenga) in Zambeze and killed several civilians. Two days later, they repeated the same aggression, this time against the village of Sabasaba in the same area. After enumerating the acts of aggression committed in the last couple of months, the Angolan declaration stated that the massacres perpetrated show the Zairian and South African statements on peace for the region, made through diplomatic channels, are false and dishonest.

NICARAGUAN NATIONAL GUARD KILLS 8, WOUNDS 20 DEMONSTRATORS

FL012155Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2106 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The Nicaraguan National Guard has killed eight persons and wounded 20 others while dispersing a peaceful demonstration that was demanding the resignation of dictator Anastasio Somoza in the northern city of Matagalpa. The massacre occurred when military units surrounded a demonstration (?composed) of approximately 10,000 persons.

The report adds that repression by the Somoza regime has generalized in Nicaragua's principal cities, while the National Guard has reinforced surveillance on the border with Costa Rica.

In the city of Leon, Nicaraguan repressive forces occupied installations of the National Autonomous University and used tear gas and shots to disperse two groups of antigovernment demonstrators. Intense ground and air patrols continue in Managua, capital of Nicaragua, to repress protest demonstrations.

Newscasters of radio stations censored by the Nicaraguan regime have begun to broadcast from the church using loudspeakers.

The Nicaraguan National Guard also has occupied the installations of the country's only oil refinery, whose 12,000 workers joined the general strike called 10 days ago by the Democratic Liberation Union. The strike has been supported by the private sector.

The news that Venezuelan workers had agreed to suspend crude oil shipments to Nicaragua has been disseminated in the Nicaraguan capital by means of loudspeakers and handbills.

Meanwhile, Managua Archbishop Miguel Ovando Bravo declared that the church supports the strike in Nicaragua. The system imposed by the regime increasingly leads to a few having more and the majority having less, added the prelate.

DOMINICAN DELEGATION GOES TO SANTIAGO DE CUBA

FL011549Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The Dominican governmental delegation in our country has arrived in Santiago de Cuba to transfer the remains of the Dominican poet Fabio Fiallo, who will be exhumed in a solemn ceremony tomorrow, 2 February. The delegation is headed by Secretary of State for Industry and Commerce Dr Julilo Genaro Campillo [as heard] and also includes Academy of Sciences President Pedro Troncoso, his wife, and the Dominican poets (Pedro Mir) and (Manuel del Cabral).

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON METALLURGICAL WORKERS CONGRESS

Main Report Approved

FL011740Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The second session of the mining and metallurgical workers' congress has concluded with approval of the main report read by the national organizing committee [chairman]. The report was extensively analyzed by the delegates who also praised it for its comprehensive and critical contents.

During the same session, which was attended by Roberto Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers, special speeches were made by Lester Rodriguez and Manuel Cespedes, ministers of the iron and steel machinery industry and mines and geology, respectively. Rodriguez emphasized the problems faced by his sector that led to the unfulfillment of the 1977 technical-economic plan, which also was affected by the lack of raw materials for several branches of production.

The iron and steel sector, which in a single month has produced more than in an entire year under capitalism, has been having an annual growth rate of 26 percent since the triumph of the revolution. Its growth rate for 1978 is set for 41 percent.

During this morning's session, the draft bylaws for the sector and candidates for the trade union's national committee will be introduced to the 340 participating delegates. Five resolutions, including the final declaration, will be discussed in the afternoon, and the congress will close with the massive attendance of workers from the provinces.

National Committee Elected

FL011844Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The national committee of the Mining and Metallurgical Workers Trade Union, which is holding its first congress, was elected minutes ago by the votes of 325 delegates. The congress is meeting for the second straight day at the Lazaro Pena Auditorium of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers--CTC.

During its first meeting, the national committee elected Rafael Navarette as secretary general and Eduardo Reina as second secretary. (Froylanz Zulueta Pedroso), Miguel Patterson, Alfredo Badel, Porfirio Hernandez Padron and Alberto Sanchez Garcia were elected to the secretariat.

During today's session, the congress approved several special resolutions, including one containing a pledge to work against the shortage of spare parts, and another one on celebrating 3 November as mining and metallurgical workers day and to present the Rene Ramos Latour Award then to those workers with more than 25 years of service.

The congress closes this afternoon with a speech by CTC Second Secretary Agapito Figueroa.

Congress Ends

FL020024Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The first congress of the Mining and Metallurgical Workers Trade Union, presided over by Roberto Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and Secretary General of the CTC, and the ministers of the iron and steel industry and mines, has ended with a massive closing session at the CTC's Lazaro Pena Auditorium. (Viktor Shukov), first secretary of the USSR Embassy in our country, also presided over the session.

Rafael Navarette, recently elected secretary general of the union, read a final resolution during the session. Among other points, the final resolution states: Given the importance which the manufacture of spare parts represents for the country because it means a saving in foreign exchange, the congress calls on all technicians and qualified workers, as well as on workers in general, to seek ways to increase the quantity and supply of spare parts.

Elsewhere in the final resolution, the congress charges the national committee, in conjunction with the ministries, to search for solutions to the various existing problems. It expresses total support for the pronouncements of Council of State President Comrade Fidel Castro at the second regular session of the National People's Government Assembly.

In his closing speech, Agapito Figueroa referred to the main report, noting it was good because it gave primary emphasis to the deficiencies in the past that prevented more progress. He said that the organization or work and wages plays an important role in the face of the large growth planned in our mining-metallurgical sector for this and future years. After referring to the importance of strict observance to socialist law, Agapito Figueroa mentioned Lenin's thoughts on this subject and pointed out that this is a task of the first order for the labor movement. The second secretary of the CTC concluded his speech, urging tribute to the events that will be held in our fatherland this year, such as the 11th World Youth and Student Festi[illegible] 14th Labor Congress and the 25th anniversary of the assault on Moncada Bar[illegible].

GARCIA FRIAS CHAIRS TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY MEETING

FL301936Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Guillermo Garcia Frias, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, has chaired the seventh national assessment meeting of the Transportation Ministry, which was held for 3 days in Holguin. It was announced in the report covering the maritime sector that cargo operation plans in the ports were fulfilled by 107.2 percent, or 7.1 percent more than in 1976. The ports of Santiago de Cuba and Zone Six of the Haiphong Maritime Terminal were outstanding in these activities with their handling of more than 1 million tons in the year, an unprecedented figure. An impressive achievement for the national economy was the savings of $20 million in payments for [ships] staying in our ports in 1976. [as heard]

GRANMA PCC PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE HOLDS SECOND PLENUM

FL302143Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2014 GMT 30 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The second plenum of the Granma PCC Provincial Committee has been held in Bayamo with PCC Central Committee member Emilio Loo Hernandez presiding. The first secretary of the PCC in Granma Province and the other members of the Executive Bureau examined the efforts made to carry out the principal economic, political and social tasks. After approving the work plan of the PCC Bureau and Committee for 1978, the plenum approved an intensification of work for greater economic efficiency. The work in sugarcane, agriculture and the status of the sugar harvest in Granma Province were analyzed in-depth, and specific guidelines were issued to overcome difficulties caused by the rains in recent months.

VALDES CHAIRS MEETING ON CEMENT FACTORIES EMULATION

FL012138Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2105 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Text] The Jose Merceron Cement Factory in Santiago de Cuba has taken first place nationally during a review of the special emulation in this construction subbranch for 1977. The review was made in Santiago de Cuba today chaired by Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo. The Siguaney Cement Factory in Sancti Spiritus and 26 July Factory in Nuevitas took second and third place respectively. The best workers in the catefory of basic, technician and helper at these factories were Orlando Perez, Salvador Artiles and Leonel Santos, respectively. A significant moment during the review took place when Francisco Salomon spoke. An outstanding worker at the cement factory in Lobito, Angola, he brought to Cuban workers greetings of warmth and solidarity from the workers of the fraternal African country.

BAHAMAS

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY APPROVES OIL EXPLORATION BILL

FL011916Y Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Feb 78 FL

[Mike Smith telephone report]

[Excerpt] Minister of development the Honorable Alfred Maycock told members of the House of Assembly today that some specific and general inquiries are being made to the Bahamas Government for licenses to explore for petroleum or oil in Bahamian territory. The development minister said that previously four attempts to explore for oil in the Bahamas were made since the 1940's at areas at Long Island, Andros, (Elobos), and Cay Sal. And at the time of those inquiries, said the minister, there was some oil shown. But at the time, the cost of retrieving the oil did not permit any further explorations. Since then, said the development minister, oil economies have changed. From 1973, the price of oil has risen from $2 per barrel to $12 per barrel. This, pointed out the minister, changed the economic viability of oil explorations. Mr Maycock told house members that the government now feels that it has to update the legislation regarding oil explorations. The bill, said Mr Maycock, is an attempt to tighten up the regulations regarding such explorations. Members passed the bill.

JAMAICA

CITIZENS, SECURITY FORCES TO FORM COMMUNITY COUNCILS

FL302320Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 27 Jan 78 pp 1, 15 FL

[Text] Citizens/Security Forces community councils are to be set up in the under-privileged sections of the corporate area to 'nip in the bud' any problem that might arise at the local level between the Security Forces and the public.

The councils will not replace the legally-constituted authority but will be responsible for defusing, immediately, any potentially dangerous situation and assist in preserving peace in the areas, an API release said.

The establishment of community councils was agreed at a 3 1/2 hour meeting yesterday between Senator the Hon. Dudley Thompson, minister of national security, and the Central Peace Council, at the ministry.

Also participating in the meeting were Mr Roy McGann, parliamentary secretary in the office of the prime minister; Senator Winston Spaulding, opposition spokesman on national security; commissioner of police, Mr Desmond Campbell; Major-General Rudolph Green, chief of staff, Jamaica Defense Force; and two members of the Central Advisory (Peace) Council, Rev. J. G. Bennett, Chairman and Rev. Duncan Hughes.

A proposal by Mr Thompson that peace leaders carry special identification was accepted. The meeting felt that this would assist them in their functions.

Mr Thompson stressed that the key role of the peace leaders is to make the peace permanent. He suggested that the peace leaders accompany the security forces when they entered their areas, for one reason or another.

Some of the leaders reported that since the truce and the subsequent reduction of crime in their areas, relations with the security forces had improved, considerably.

Tribunal

The meeting also discussed the establishment of an effective, impertial tribunal to deal with misconduct by the security forces against citizens and the need for more training in elementary sociology and community relations for security forces personnel.

The peace leaders accepted a challenge by Mr Thompson to clean off the political slogans on the walls in their community.

Minister Thompson also said that he would like to see more women represented on the Central Peace Council and on all community councils because they played a vital part in such matters.

Lasting Peace

Before leaving, the peace leaders pledged to return to their communities and work toward a lasting peace.

Another meeting is to be held to review the extent to which crime has been reduced as a result of these peace initiatives and how relationship between the communities and the security forces has been proceeding.

ST. LUCIA

PREMIER COMPTON CALLS FOR STRONG CARICOM

FL271945Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 25 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] St. Lucia's Premier, Mr John Compton, has called for a strong and vibrant Caribbean community, whose machinery of cooperation is kept well lubricated by constant consultation.

He said that the "grim" alternative to this may well be for the individual states within CARICOM to remain what the late President de Gaulle contemptuously referred to as "specks of dust"-client states continuously being made pawns on the international chessboard, being left stranded on the rocks like so much flotsam.

But, he added, this need not be so. For, he said, the West Indies and her people have much need to contribute to international affairs by our example in regional cooperation.

Premier Compton was addressing the ceremony for the presentation of graduates at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies yesterday on "independence within inter-dependence."

Mr Compton felt that within CARICOM all members are supposedly equal but the existence in the community of states in various stages of political development resulted in "some members being more equal than others."

"This can create problems for the community, because either some members--the non-independent members--may be excluded from participating in all the decision making processes of the community, particularly in the important field of foreign policy or if they are included in the shadow of the metropolitan presence may cast a shadow over the community, by placing an unacceptable constraint on the independent countries in the full exercise of their sovereignty."

The St. Lucian leader maintained that for the smooth functioning of the organs of the community, therefore, it was an urgent imperative that all member countries be equal in constitutional status, and all constraints upon their sovereignty removed. But he cautioned that we may well find our freshly minted independence to be a mere facade behind which external forces-both government and transnational corporations-operate to manipulate our sovereign status for their own ends. Mr. Compton admitted that it was true that on the road to nationhood the West Indies states stumbled and fell. "But in less than a decade we gathered up ourselves, and planted, cultivated and nurtured that delicate plant of regional co-operation," he said. He added: "It is within the branches of this tree that our tiny countries must find shelter when the storm clouds gather. It is only here, clustered together in the shade of protection that we can preserve the integrity of our national independence." Mr. Compton said that this region had moved chronologically through the centuries, through colonialism and dependence, into independence. But whether we could preserve untarnished this newly-minted status, or whether we shall once again become dependent pawns, would depend on the vision of our statesmen and on their collective political will. He advised that we could only survive as a region and progress as a people, if, in times of anxiety, we concern ourselves with each other's problems "and become our brother's keeper."

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

CABINET PROTESTS OVER UNIVERSITY TELEVISION EXPERIMENT

FL012050Y Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 29 Jan 78 pp 1, 6 FL

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Jan. 28, (CANA)--The Trinidad and Tobago Cabinet is protesting to the University of the West Indies (UWI) about the manner in which it set up an inter-campus television experiment recently with United States assistance. Dr. Cuthbert Joseph, minister of education and culture, told about the government's concern in the House of Representatives last night.

Dr. Joseph said cabinet felt the Trinidad and Tobago government, as a major contributor to the university, ought to have been consulted initially on any university projects of technical co-operation with foreign governments. The minister disclosed that cabinet on Thursday had turned down the university's request for use of certain frequencies for reception and transmission in the project.

The experiment causing concern to the government was begun January 20 by the university, assisted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), using two NASA satellites. It links the Cave Hill (Barbados) and Mona (Jamaica) campuses through use of two satellites, and the St. Lucia segment of the university is to be included before the experiment ends March 10. A series of lectures, seminars and conferences will be telecast involving the several campuses, and university officials have said the experiment could point the way towards permanent joint campus activities, thus reducing the cost of higher education in the Caribbean.

At the inauguration ceremony, American Ambassador to Jamaica, Mr. Frederick Irving, said the experiment demonstrated the mechanism of inter-dependence, and that it was a reaffirmation of the commitment of the university to consultation and collaboration.

JAGAN URGES SALARY CUT, RESTRUCTURING OF DEFENSE

FL302325Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Jan 78 pp 3, 5 FL

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 26 (CANA)--Guyana's opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) today urged salary reductions for government ministers and a complete restructuring of the country's defences to help cope with growing economic problems.

The PPP's position was set out by its leader, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, during a news conference here just before he left for Georgetown.

Dr. Jagan has been in Barbados for the past two days taking part in a regional symposium organised by the students guild at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

"There should be cuts in the salaries and allowances of ministers... and government must bring strict measures to stop corruption," Dr. Jagan said.

He also called for the abolition of the Ministry of National Development, saying it was a ministry designed to get jobs for members of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC).

The Guyana opposition leader noted that defence spending in Guyana rose from 16 million dollars (G) in 1972 to 113 million dollars at the end of 1976.

"We don't say the country must not have a defence force. We think it could be much more cheaply and qualitatively better through a people's militia... at the residential level, at the factory level," Dr. Jagan said.

Dr. Jagan said that the present people's militia inaugurated in 1976 was in fact a militia of the PNC.

He predicted the removal of all subsidies on foods and transport as the government moves to tackle growing economic problems.

He said he also expected that spending on social services would be curbed and there would be retrenchment of workers.

Dr. Jagan added that his party's proposal for a national front government, formulated last year but rejected by the PNC, would not be put to mass organisations in the country.

The Guyana opposition leader noted that the Trade's Union Congress (TUC) had already committed itself to discussing the proposals at a special conference.

In addition, the party intended taking them to churches, professional and other bodies, he said.

Dr. Jagan added that the PPP would also talk to the man-in-the-street to get the ideas across.

The PPP envisaged a national government composed of both itself and the PNC, as well as other leading leftist organisations.

The proposals followed about two years after the PPP's declaration that it intended to render critical support to the administration of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham.

Dr. Jagan said that that attitude had not changed, despite the increasing influence being exerted by "reactionaries" within the ruling party.

The areas identified by him included the extent of surplus labour, skills involved, training needed, and the position of workers who decline changing job or skill.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES LCY-SAWPY JOINT DELEGATION

LD262000Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 1800 GMT 26 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Georgetown, January 26 (TANJUG)--Prime Minister of Guyana and leader of the ruling People's National Congress Forbes Burnham today received a joint delegation of the League of Communists and the Socialist Alliance of Yugoslavia (?which is on a) friendly visit to this country.

Prime Minister Burnham and member of the LCY Presidency's Executive Committee Munir Mesihovic, who heads the Yugoslav delegation, underlined the importance of the policy and movement of non-alignment, especially in an effort to create a new and juster international economic order. Prime Minister Burnham and Munir Mesihovic stressed the readiness of the two parties and countries to constantly advance their all-round cooperation and cooperation within the movement of non-aligned countries.

The LCY-Socialist Alliance delegation had talks also with leader of the opposition and general secretary of the People's Progressive Party, Cheddi Jagan. They had a wider exchange of information on the two parties' activities at home and abroad.

14 NEW POLICE OFFICIALS APPOINTED IN GUYANA

FL012055Y Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 29 Jan 78 p 8 FL

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, (CANA)--Guyana today got four new deputy police commissioners, four assistant commissioners, five senior superintendents, and a superintendent.

Former crime chief Donald Haynes becomes deputy commissioner (administration), special branch head James Mentore, Mr. Norman McLean (now on secondment to the national service), and Mr. Balram Raghubir (operations) are the other three new deputy commissioners.

Senior Superintendent Cecil "Skip" Roberts, acting crime chief, is among the four new assistant commissioners, and confirmed as crime chief.

Other new assistant commissioners are Cecil Gravesande (given charge of the interior), Ivan Crandon (charge of Berbice Country to the east) and Harold Martin, with administration in Georgetown.

Commissioner Lloyd Barker also appointed the following senior superintendents: C. Augustus, J. Grosvenor, H. London, R. Gibbs and E. John and E. Jarvis as superintendents.

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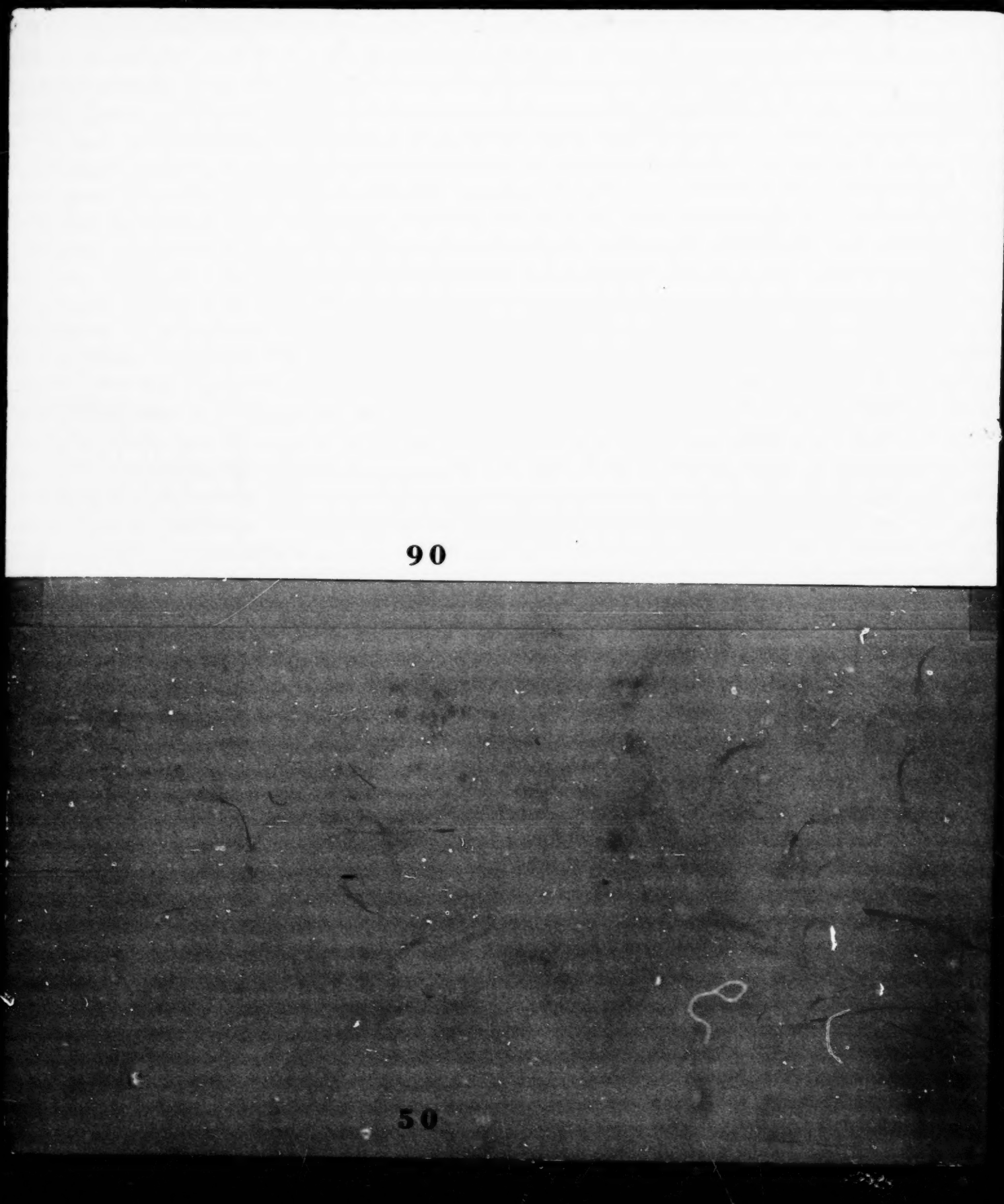
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